











# GUCCI





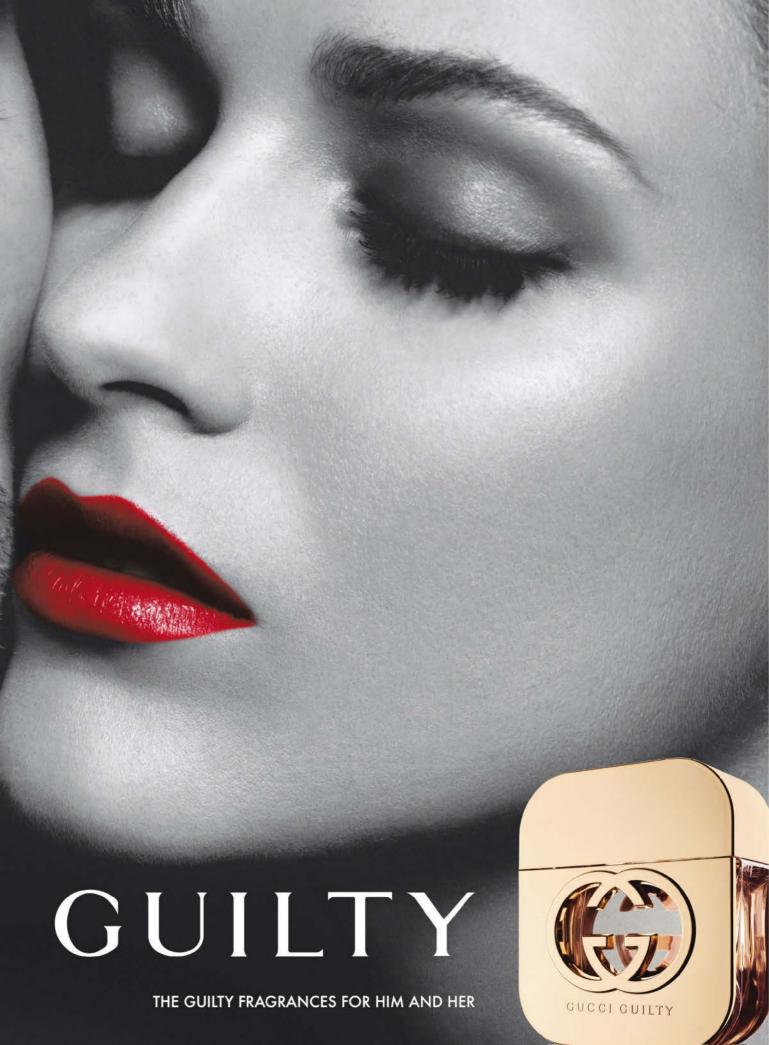
Available at Macy's and Macys.com

View the Final version of the Frank Miller video at gucciguilty com

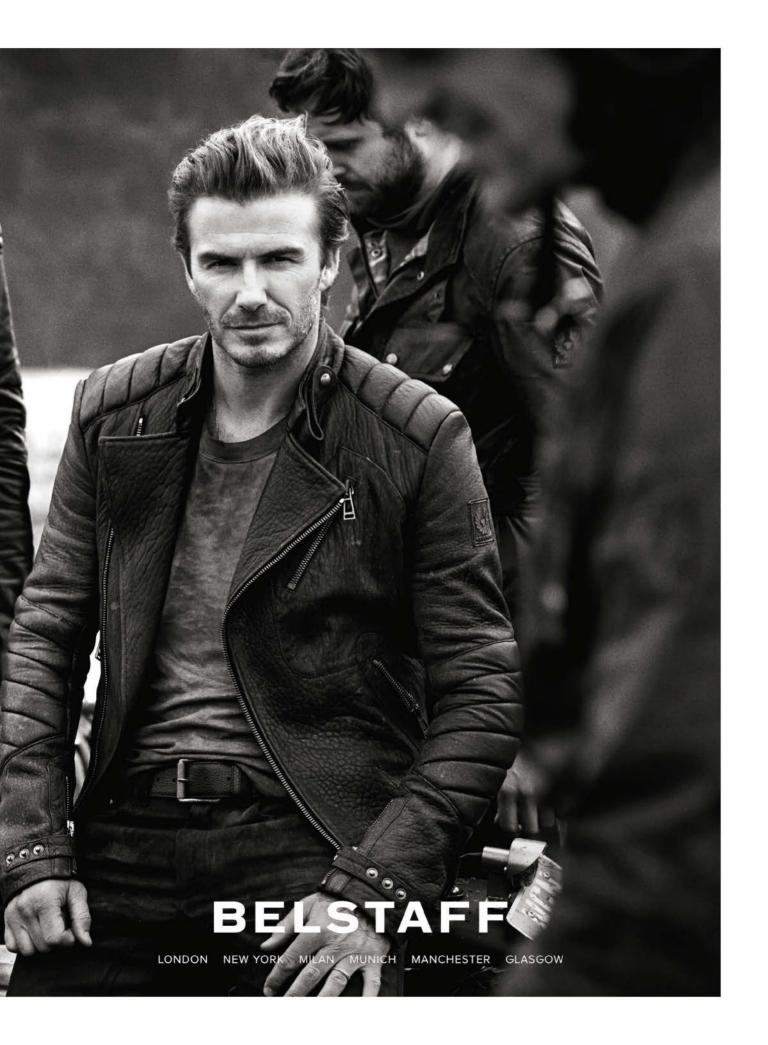


GUCCI

Church St.



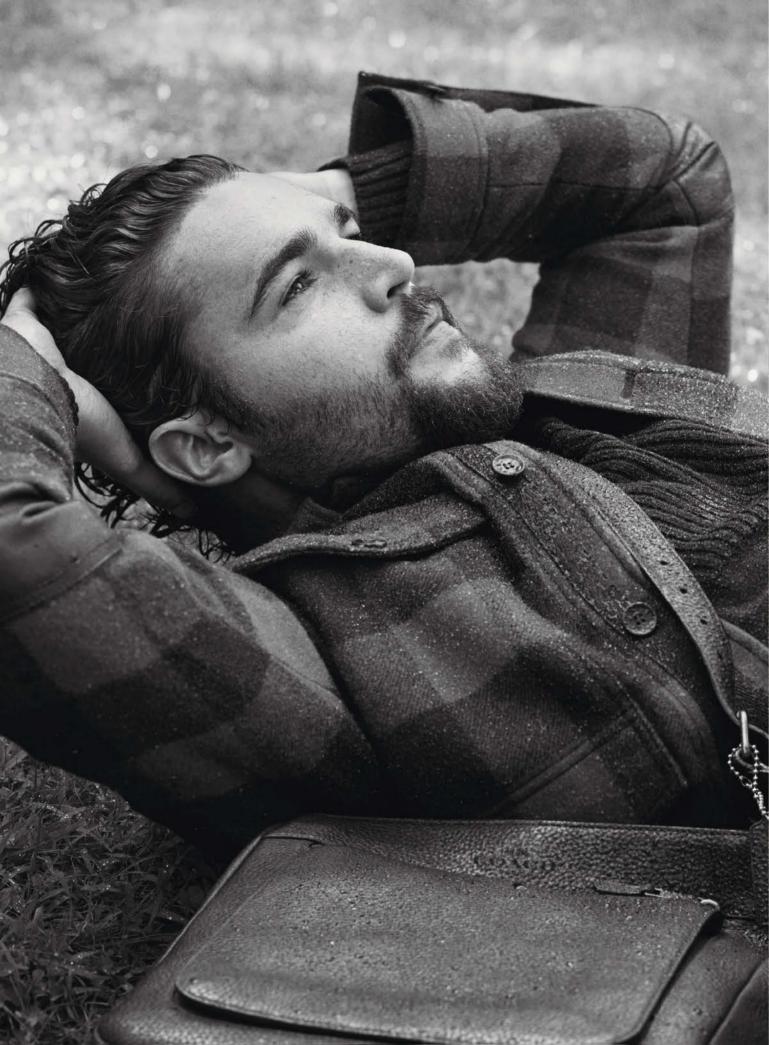






Feldmar Watch Company feldmarwatch.com 310-274-8016









Coach Dreamers

Christopher Abbott/Actor Pebbled Field Bag in black Wool Shirt Jacket in red/black Coach proudly supports the High Line. coach.com





# MAN OF TODAY

**GERARD BUTLER FOR BOSS BOTTLED** 



BOSS HUGOBOSS

**#MANOFTODAY** 





# GQ Style

What To Wear Now

Three Easy Ways to Get Your Copy:



# VISIT GQ.COM/GETGQSTYLE

to order your print copy online



# GO TO A NEWSSTAND NATIONWIDE

including all Barnes & Noble stores



# DOWNLOAD FROM AN APP STORE

for iPad®, Kindle Fire, and other tablets

Apple is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and of the countries. Page and Times are trademarks of Apple Inc., Amazon and Kindle Fire are bodemarks of Amazon com, Inc. or its attilistics. Barnes & Noble Is a trademark of Barnes & Noble Inc. or its affiliates.



# RADO DIAMASTER AUTOMATIC

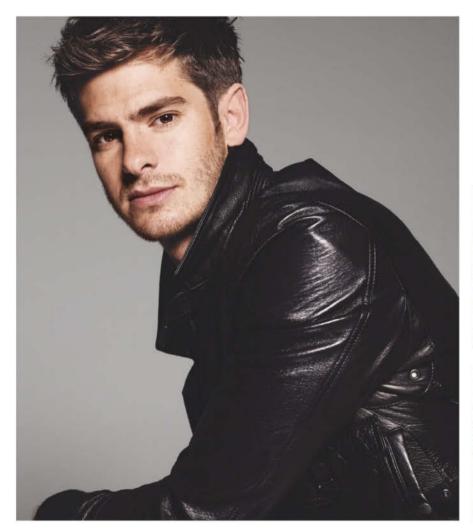
PLASMA HIGH-TECH CERAMIC 100% CERAMIC WITH A METALLIC LOOK MODERN ALCHEMY

RADO

AUTOMATIC

# • THE GENTLEMEN'S FUND

# GO CELEBRATES EXTRAORDINARY MEN WHO ARE IMPROVING THE WORLD AROUND THEM.









# 2014 HONOREE ANDREW GARFIELD

As the Amazing Spider-Man, Andrew Garfield has no problem wowing kids. But he inspires them when he's not wearing his superhero costume, too. Through his efforts with two different nonprofits, the 51-year-old actor has made it a little easier for extremely disadvantaged young people to imagine and realize brighter futures.

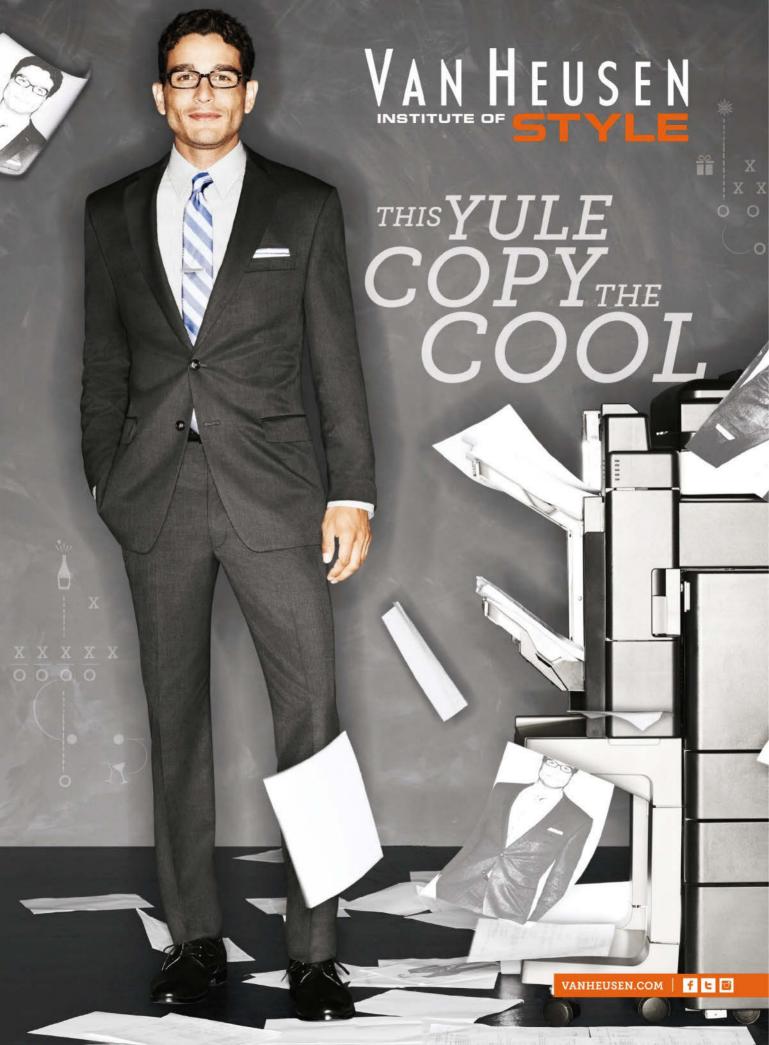
Based in Los Angeles, Youth Mentoring Connection creates nurturing relationships between at-risk youth and caring adult volunteers. With offerings such as life-skills workshops and unstructured talk sessions, the organization has helped young people avoid gang membership, go to college, and feel loved. Worldwide Orphans, meanwhile, provides care for neglected children on four continents. Since 1997, it has helped untold numbers of them to become healthy and independent members of society, against all

odds. With his generous efforts, Garfield has given the youth served by both these groups something more rewarding (if not cooler) than spider-sense: a chance.

Get involved at YOUTHMENTORING.ORG WWO.ORG







# **CAREERS**



## **GENERAL HELP WANTED**

Seeking someone for general help, eq, filing, errands, organizing, answering email. Must know how to type. \$10 per hour to start

# HOME AND BUILDING INSPECTOR

Wanted to join a growing firm. Familiar with ASHI and local codes. Call after 4pm. 555-123-4567

# WORD PROCESSING SPECIALIST

Our client is seeking a talented and experienced Word Processing Specialist to join their team for a short-term project. A strong background in computer programs in general. \$15/hr.

# DID YOU KNOW?

From its inception in 1999. CAREER GEAR has served over 35,000 men through the job readiness program.

# **NEW AD**

# PRODUCTION OPERATOR

Degree from an accredited university required. Must have a complete command of Graphic Software and Pictures Treatment. Preference will be given to applicants having additional qualifications of multimedia, etc. Minimum 6 years working experience in any Newspaper and Magazines

## MAINTENANCE MANAGER

Mechanical/Mechatronics en gineering w/ minimum 5 years of hands on beverage industry plant maintenance experience on glass & PET lines, blow mold ers, injection molding machines. water treatment plant, boilers. air & ammonia compressors. etc. Candidate will be responsible for all maintenance including mechanical, instrumentation and electrical, handling breakdown, preventive and annual maintenance, spares inventory, cost control and achieving line efficiencies & productivity.

within 6 months of hire Union Represented position.

# **TELEPHONE WORKERS**

Full or part-time, helping people help themselves. Work from your own home. Option of salary or commission. Call 555-121-1121

# PROJECT COORDINATOR

Needed to oversee all special projects for software publisher. Excellent organizational skills and ability to deal with deadlines essential. Call Personnel Dept.

6 years working experience in any Newspaper and Magazines, with knowledge of Graphic Design. Mail CV by January 5th to: production@operations.jobs Position applied to should be clearly stated in the email subject.

# JUST IN



# PASS IT FORWARD!

Go to VanHeusen.com to see how STEVE YOUNG & **JERRY RICE** #GIVEASHIRT

# **GENERAL MANAGER**

A non-profit social enterprise is seeking a full-time General Manager with business experience to lead and manage. The focus of the work will be on sales marketing. \$60,000 per annum.



# HELP WANTED

USE #GIVEASHIRT AND VAN HEUSEN WILL DONATE A SHIRT\* TO GIVE SOMEONE'S CAREER A SECOND CHANCE.

IWHILE YOU EARN A CHANCE TO WIN GREAT PRIZESI\*\*

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT VANHEUSEN.COM

# **#GIVEASHIRT**

CAREERGEAR

a suit - a second chance

# SENIOR ADVISOR ASSISTANT

A well-established independent wealth management organization is seeking a qualified Senior Advisor Assistant to join their team. \$40,000-\$60,000 per annum based on relevant experience. Please email resumes.

# P/T SALES ASSISTANT

We are looking for high energy. career oriented sales assistant who thrives in a fast paced environment. You must be able to multi-task constantly. \$12/hr.

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

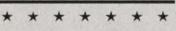
Applicant must be certifiable in NH. Administrative experience preferred. Salary low-mid forties. Send resume and references.

# **BE SOCIALLY AWARE** Use #GIVEASHIRT on any of these social media outlets



# SALES ASSISTANT

We currently have an excellent opportunity in our sales office. For more information about the company see our website www.salesassistant.job



PHONE FROM HOME servicing our customers selling household products. Earn up to \$5-10 hourly. 555-654-9876

EARN \$20-\$40 per day for providing temporary care for handicapped people in your own home. Call Michael at 555-824-9588



### CASHIER

9-3, Mon-Fri. Experience preferred. Apply in person: BOOKWORM'S, 50 Main Street. team for a short-term project. A strong background in computer programs in general. \$15/hr.



# PARK/UTILITY SERVICE WORKER

Salary range: \$44,234 - \$53,756
Maintains streets, drainage, parks
and other city facilities with backhoes, bulldozers, dump trucks,
power lawn mowers, saws,
trimmers, snow and ice control
equipment, and construction
hand tools. CDL Class B required
within 6 months of hire.
Union Represented position.
Apply in person at City Hall.

### PRODUCTION OPERATOR

Diploma in Communications with a complete command of Graphic Software and Pictures Treatment. Minimum 6 years working experience in publications. Email CV to: production@operations.jobs

# **CAREERS**

# (PAGEMAKERS)

Minimum Intermediate from a recognized institution and diploma in Multimedia or should have a complete command on Graphic & Pagemaking Software. Preferences will be given to applicants having additional qualifications of multimedia etc. \$30/hr.

Apply online: www.pagedesign.com/jobs

# HR MANAGER

Must have effective project and contract delivery skills. Ability to analyze complex data, draw conclusions and use results to improve performance. Strong





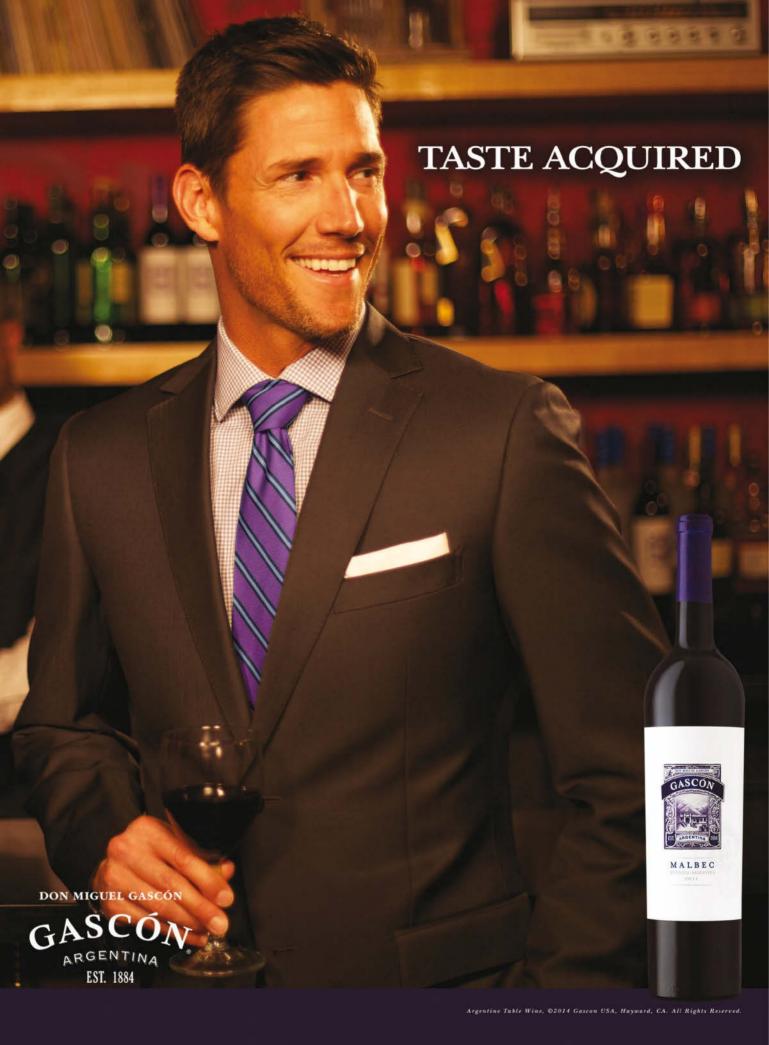
PREP FOR THE HOLIDAYS @ IZOD.COM

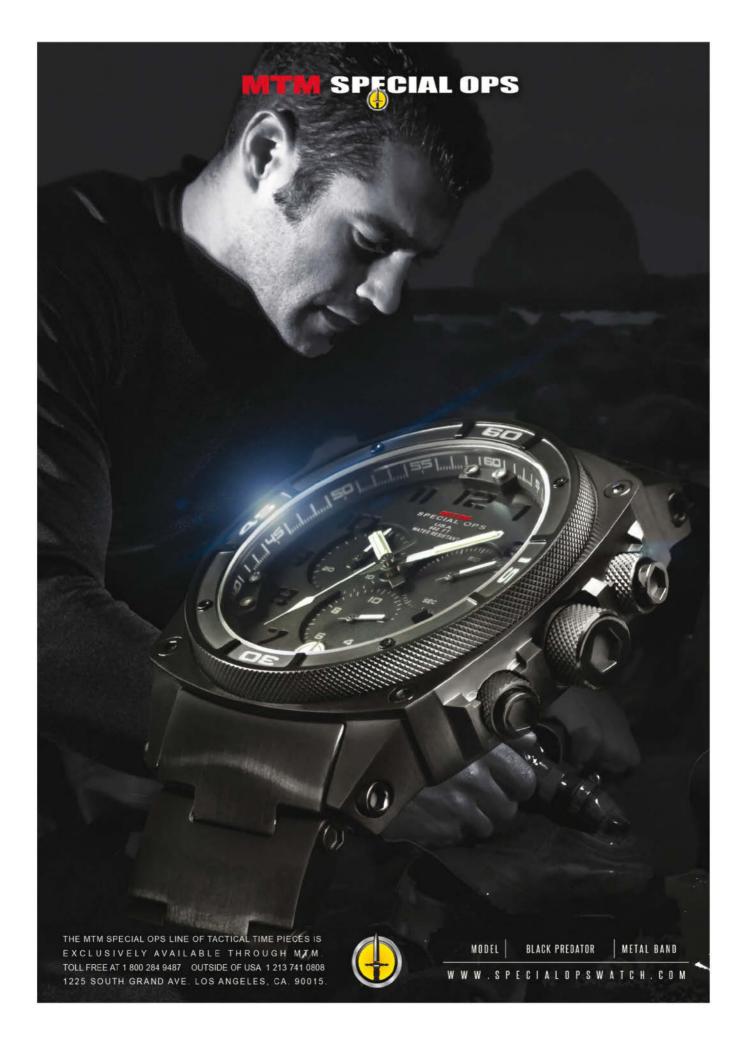














be very. like perry.

# PERRY ELLIS COBALT

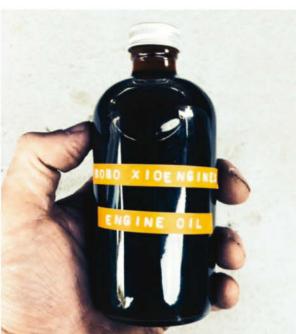




# PERFECT PAIRINGS

Syrup Innovator =

# James Fox





# Engine Oil with Basil Hayden's® Bourbon

- Start with Dark Robust Syrup
- ► Top off with Basil Hayden's Bourbon
- Shake it with a clementine wedge
- ► Enjoy!

Engine Oil was the idea of my buddy James Fox who pens the blog 10 engines. "It may seem hokey to those below the 49th parallel, but good maple syrup is a serious cash crop [in Vermont]. It is worth 20 times the price of a gallon of gasoline," Fox said.

Having grown up ten miles from Bobo's Mountain, Fox and **Bobo's Mountain Sugar's** Tina Hartell are old friends.

"I have been to more sap boiling parties than christenings," said Fox, as a means of explaining the importance of maple syrup to the people of Vermont.

As Hartell tells it, Fox's idea for a syrup collaboration could not have come at a better time.

"This season, our syrup came back really dark," she said. "Darker than motor oil," Fox chimed in with a wink.

Without getting too technical, Hartell explained the process. "The longer sap boils, the darker the syrup becomes, and through the process of reverse osmosis, the syrup becomes lighter. That process removes three-quarters of the water, which then raises the sugar content of the sap."

"Also, there are naturally occurring microorganisms in the syrup. The later in the sugaring season the production runs, the warmer the sap is, and the more apt the microorganisms are to

reproduce. This makes the syrup darker."

Hartell says, "none of this explains why Bobo's and so many other syrup makers in Vermont made so much dark syrup this year. In spite of the fact that we have reverse osmosis, we made nothing but dark syrup from the get-go [late March]."

When she asked another heavy-hitter in the Vermont maple syrup world-someone who's been producing syrup for over 40 years-why everyone's syrup went dark, he said, "Because that's what the trees gave us."

Well said.

When asked how he suggests enjoying Engine Oil with Basil Hayden's, Fox was adamant.

"Don't get too fancy. Some maple syrup topped off with brown liquor. Check out that separation! For a little something extra, shake it with a clementine."

Visit BobosMountainSugar.com to find Bobo's "Engine Oil" for sale under its legal name, Dark Robust Syrup.



DOWNLOAD THE GQ LIVE APP and hover your device over this page to watch exclusive video about Max and Whiskey Among Other Things...





brought to you by

Max Wastler is a Chicago-based storyteller and shop owner known for his appreciation of America, its people, its places, and in particular, its handmade things, including Basil Hayden's® Kentucky Straight Bourbon. His blog will leave you educated, inspired, and definitely thirsty for more. Find Whiskey Among Other Things at BasilHaydens.com.



Armitron MAKE TIME

Stainless Steel Construction | Water Resistant to 165ft | Suggested Retail \$65





LESS LAYERS. MORE FREEDOM.
ONE THIN HEATTECH LAYER GIVES YOU
WARMTH WITHOUT WEIGHT.
HEATTECH: LESS IS WARM.



CHECK OUT THESE GQ EXCLUSIVE

# advertising sections

# IN THIS ISSUE: DECEMBER 2014



49

# WELL DONE, SIR

Nick Taranto, winner of the Express + GQ Back2Business initiative, leads us through a modern business day, from morning-hoodie mode to versatile evening looks.

**EXPRESS** 



54

### MADISON AVENUE MODERN

Get classic style for modern-day "mad men" with American luxury watchmaker Bulova's Accutron II collection, inspired by original designs from the 1960s.

BULOVA

25



### PERFECT PAIRINGS

Basil Hayden's<sup>®</sup> spends time in Vermont with James Fox and learns a little something about the art of making syrup.\*

This section may not be available in all markets.

Basil Hayden's Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 40% Alc./
Vol. ©2014 Kentucky Springs Distilling Co., Clermont, KY.



126

### **GIFTS FOR HER**

GQ Style Ambassador Sabir Peele teamed up with Glamour and Forever 21 to select the best holiday gift ideas for the wonderful woman in your life.

FOREVER 21



171

### THE WATCHMAN

Award-winning menswear designer Robert Geller explains why G-Shock's tough yet elegant MT-G is the perfect accessory for his latest collection.

G-SHOCK MT-G

# PROMOTIONS EWEM DVERTISERS

GQ.COM/GQREPORT

# 



30 GQ.COM DECEMBER 2014

### **GQ** Intelligence

### 135

The Punch List
Rolling through the highs and lows of our (cough) highest year ever

Adam Silver, the NBA's new commish, discusses his wildly impressive first season—including the elephant in the league that was Donald Sterling BY CHUCK KLOSTERMAN

The Least Influential People of 2014

They took up so much space and gave back so little BY DREW MAGARY

There was a lot to cover in lady-news, so we broke it up by season, starting last winter with Alexandra Daddario—also known as that girl from *True Detective* 

And the Most Powerful Internet Mogul of 2014 Is...Will Ferrell? Funny or Die has been

really funny (but not so deadly) for seven years now. AMY WALLACE goes behind the scenes to figure out what the next seven hold for Ferrell and Co.

The Music Legend Who Just Might Save Apple Jimmy lovine, the record-biz lifer who worked on Born to Run, co-founded Interscope, signed Eminem, and teamed up with Dr. Dre to start Beats, just made the biggest move of his career: joining the house that Steve Jobs built THE GQ&A BY MICHAEL HAINEY

Found: The Music You Probably Missed in 2014 The best B sides, deep cuts, and weird-but-wonderful albums you probably didn't hear this year



# DELEÓN®

TEQUILA



PAGE 2/3

### Men of the Year

### 210

### **Chris Pratt**

This was the year that everyone's favorite lovable lug became a full-on, galaxy-sized Hollywood heavyweight. Chris Pratt and DREW MAGARY shoot and grill the night away

### 220

### Ansel Elgort

At 20, he became a youngadult heartthrob. At 21, we predict, he'll find nothing short of superstardom BY DANIEL RILEY

### Shailene

You've heard about the mushroom tea. And the clay toothpaste. But Shailene Woodley is more than the sum of her eccentricitiesshe's also one hell of an actress BY DEVIN FRIEDMAN

### 232

## Dave Chappelle

He's back and might be better than ever. In his first cover story in years, Dave Chappelle tells MARK ANTHONY GREEN if it's for good

### 238

### eve Care

He's sweet! Charming! Dad-ness incarnate! So how did the 40-Year-Old Virgin turn in a terrifying, Oscarworthy performance that's giving us nightmares? BY ZACH BARON

### 248

He's the first openly gay player in the NFL—and that's the least interesting thing about him BY ANDREW CORSELLO





The Breakouts
The Hollywood leading
man is dead, right? Try explaining that to these seven young men (and one woman) whose faces will be all over the silver screen for years to come

210 **Chris Pratt** 

Eddie Redmayne 214

Chadwick Boseman 216

218 Ellar Coltrane 220 Ansel Elgort 224 Jack O'Connell

226

Miles Teller

Shailene Woodley 228

### 240

No joke: In July, a "Weird Al" Yankovic record hit No. 1. LAUREN BANS talks shop with pop's reigning prankster

She played wildly different characters in three of the year's best films and remains an enigma. ZACH BARON ventures to her fairy-tale home deep in the Scottish Highlands

The U.S. made plenty of noise at the World Cup and in the process gave us a brand-new hero: goalie Tim Howard BY DANIEL RILEY



PAGE 3/3



### 252 **Grouses of the Holy**

Jimmy Page was the guitarist in the rock band. You'd think he'd be content with his unimpeachable place in the pantheon. Think again BY CHUCK KLOSTERMAN

### 258 **Out of Ebola**

When an American doctor contracted Ebola this summer in Liberia, his chances for recovery were grim. Here's how he survived by SEAN FLYNN

### THE COVERS













💶 Ben Watts 🔼 Peggy Sirota

### On Chris Pratt

Jacket, \$2,295 (for tuxedo), shirt, \$450, bowtie, \$125, and jeans, \$395, by Ralph Lauren Black Label. Cuff links by Polo Ralph Lauren. Watch by Ralph Lauren Fine Watchmaking. Pocket square by Hav-A-Hank. Vintage belt from Melet Mercantile. Grooming by Johnny Hernandez For Fierro Agency. Prop styling (for all covers except Michael Sam) by Juliet Jernigan at CLM. Contributing stylist: Brian Coats at The Wall Group. Produced by Steve Bauerfeind for Bauerfeind Productions-West.

On Dave Chappelle Tuxedo, \$5,040, shirt, \$790, bowtie, \$240, pocket square, and studs set by **Tom Ford**.
Watch by **Shinola**. Ring by **David Yurman**.
Grooming by Johnny Hernandez for Fierro
Agency. Produced by Steve Bauerfeind for Bauerfeind Productions-West.

### On Steve Carell

Tuxedo, \$4,200, shirt, \$690, bow tie, \$210, and Montblanc. Grooming by Johnny Hernandez for Fierro Agency. Produced by Tricia Sherman for Bauerfeind Productions-West.

On Michael Sam
Tuxedo, \$895, and shirt, \$175, by Boss. Bow tie,
\$98, by Turnbull & Asser. Sweatshirt, \$495, by
Maison Martin Margiela at MrPorter.com. Watch by **TAG Heuer.** Grooming by Hee Soo Kwon for Malin+Goetz. Prop styling by Phillip Williams. Produced by Tricia Sherman for Bauerfeind Productions-West.

On Ansel Elgort Tuxedo, \$1,895, shirt, \$245, and bow tie, \$195, by Emporio Armani. Pocket square by The Hill-Side. Watch by Dolce & Gabbana. Hair by Jordan M for Bumble and bumble. Grooming by Jodie Boland for CK One Color Cosmetics. Produced by Nathalie Akiya at Kranky Produktions

On Shailene Woodley Tuxedo jacket (men's), \$1,750, by Burberry Prorsum. Swimsuit, \$790, by **Hervé Léger** by Max Azria. Skirt, \$740, by Dsquared2. Hair by Keith Carpenter using Oribe Hair Care. Makeup by Fulvia Farolfi for Chanel. Manicure by Tatyana Molot for Lancôme. Produced by Nathalie Akiya at Kranky Produktions.

Where to buy it
Where are the items from this page to page 251 available? Go to GQ.com/go/fashiondirectories to find out. All prices quoted are approximate and subject to change



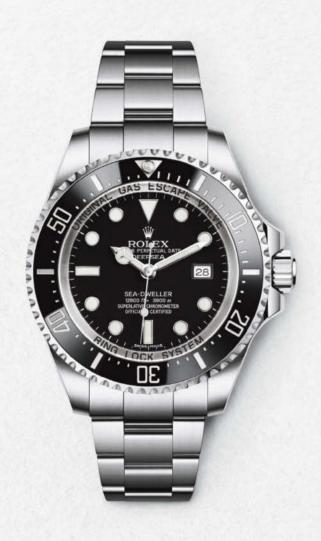




Ringlock System

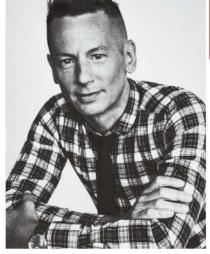
Deepsea / deep • sea /: 1. A place of unfathomable pressure. 2. Rolex's most overengineered divers' watch, featuring the patented Ringlock System, a lightweight, yet nearly indestructible, nitrogen-alloyed internal frame. 3. Capable of withstanding over three tonnes of force and depths of 3,900 metres. 4. Used by professional divers when ultimate reliability and robustness are a must. 5. Built for the extremes. 6. The Rolex Way.

More Rolex watchmaking at ROLEX.COM





# pe Francis ashion"



YOU KNOW WHO HAD a pretty infallible 2014? Pope Francis. I've already invited Him to our Men of the Year party, the big bash we do at the Chateau Marmont in L.A. to celebrate the issue—what pontiff can resist the Chateau Marmont?but I haven't heard back. I think that means he's coming. I kept it all very...Latin.

Sure, I fibbed a little. I tried to make it sound like a Holy Day of Obligation that only people in California observe. You could say that I beckoned him. I believe I used the words "The Feast of the Men of the Year." Threw in a little "Sollemnes Homines Anni." Pretty sure I nailed it.

I'm told by the Vatican that the Pope "doesn't do fashion," but I say He does every time He sashays down the aisle. And I sure hope His Holiness decides to come to L.A. to hang out with Steve Carell and Chris Pratt and the rest of us Homines because, in all honesty, I like this pope a lot.

He's kind, humane, engaged, not like that last grump who walked off the job. Unlike Pope Geezer III, Francis is someone you can relate to. You look at him and you think: That guy just might have a secular agenda.

Did you know he tweets? He tweets! If you need a break from all the snark in the world, follow his feed. It's the gentlest Twitter feed ever invented. One of my favorites: "Dear young people, do not be mediocre." (Good advice! And think about it: He's practically imploring you to subscribe to GQ.) Sometimes he'll just tweet to spirits, like this one: "Come, Holy Spirit." How cool is that? Like, he just wants to hang out. If I were the Holy Spirit, I'd retweet that shit a thousand times.

But the real reason I'm declaring Him our Holy Man of the Year is that he's trying to push the Catholic Church into the twenty-first century, where it doesn't seem to want to live, trying to open its creaky leaden doors to the realities of the world. And here's the doctrinal shocker: Francis doesn't think divorced people, or couples shacking up together, or gays and lesbians are evil. He believes they should be welcomed, not shunned. In the Catholic Church, this makes him close to a heretic. In October, he even had a committee declare that there are "positive aspects of civil unions and cohabitation," that gay Catholics have certain "gifts and qualities," and that everyone should "experiment with three-ways."

Okay, I made up that last part about threesomes. But still! Theologically

speaking, that's rad. (Or is it? We did our own calculations here at GQ and found that tens of millions of Americans have divorced, lived together, or failed to pray the gay away. If welcoming that many people is considered radical, we've lost our sense of radical.)

Well, God made His decision: Lightning did not strike the Vatican!

What *did* strike the Vatican was panic. Hard-line bishops got their vestments in a bunch and managed, in a sense, to overrule the Pope. (Which I don't get, since I thought He was infallible.) They watered down the final report, changed words in translation, and generally acted like it was 1572. They dropped language about "welcoming" gays and even changed the phrase homosexual "partners" to the dreaded "these people." (As in: Some of my best friends are "these people.")

It won't last. This pope is too cool, too charismatic, and too righteous. And Jesus, who welcomed all, rolled with prostitutes, and got pissed at people with "stubborn hearts," is on His side.

So am I.

(Dear Francis, the party is December 4. You're on the list, plus one.)

JIM NELSON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Sold exclusively in Louis Vuitton stores and on louisvuitton.com 866 VUITTON



### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

### Jim Nelson

DEPUTY EDITOR DESIGN DIRECTOR CREATIVE DIRECTOR Michael Hainey Fred Woodward Jim Moore

MANAGING EDITOR Ken Gawrych EXECUTIVE EDITOR DIRECTOR OF EDITORIAL PROJECTS Devin Friedman Brendan Vaughan Devin Gordon SENIOR ARTICLES EDITOR STYLE EDITOR Will Welch

> ARTICLES EDITORS Geoffrey Gagnon, Jonathan Wilde SENIOR EDITORS Sarah Ball, Matthew Schnipper SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITORS Nojan Aminosharei, Freddie Campion,

Daniel Riley

ASSOCIATE EDITORS Mark Byrne, Nick Marino

STAFF WRITER Zach Baron

Mark Anthony Green, Eric Sullivan ASSISTANT EDITORS ASSISTANT TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Beniv Hansen-Bundv

Jen Ortiz, Sam Schube EDITORIAL ASSOCIATES

### FASHION

FASHION DIRECTOR Madeline Weeks FASHION MARKET DIRECTOR Ted Stafford BOOKINGS DIRECTOR Victoria Graham

FASHION EDITORS Kelly McCabe, Garrett Munce, Jon Tietz

PARIS EDITOR Muriel Mercier CREDIT & LOCATION COORDINATOR Nanette Bruhn FASHION ASSISTANT Mina Yoo BOOKINGS ASSISTANT Monica Mendal

### ART & PRODUCTION

ART DIRECTOR Chelsea Cardinal DEPUTY ART DIRECTOR Andre Jointe Benjamin Bours, John Muñoz SENIOR DESIGNERS Martin Salazar DESIGNER DIGITAL DESIGNER Jeffrey Kurtz ASSOCIATE DESIGNER Griffin Funk Jim Gomez

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR ART PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Jennifer Gonzalez PRODUCTION MANAGER Hollis Yunabliut PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE Timothy J. Meneely

### рното

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Krista Prestek SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR Justin O'Neill PHOTO EDITOR Jolanta Bielat ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR Michael Allin

### GQ.COM

EDITOR-MULTIMEDIA CONTENT DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Kevin Sintumuang E.J. Samson MANAGING PRODUCER Alex Adriano Matthew Sebra STYLE EDITOR John Jannuzzi SENIOR DIGITAL EDITOR Dennis Tang ASSISTANT EDITOR STYLE WRITER Jake Woolf LEAD PRODUCER Genevieve Walker SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER C. Spencer Beggs JUNIOR DEVELOPERS Colleen Joyce, Isaac Torres

### COPY & RESEARCH

ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR Laura L. Vitale SENIOR COPY EDITOR Ted Klein COPY EDITOR Amy Schuler RESEARCH DIRECTOR Lucas Zaleski

SENIOR RESEARCHER Hilary Flkins RESEARCHER Riley Blanton

CORRESPONDENTS Lauren Bans, Taffy Brodesser-Akner,

Tom Carson, Andrew Corsello, Robert Draper, Sean Flynn, Jason Gay, Chris Heath, Jeanne Marie Laskas, Drew Magary, Brett Martin, Glenn O'Brien, Michael Paterniti, Nathaniel Penn, Alan Richman,

George Saunders, Wells Tower, Amy Wallace

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Marc Ambinder, Brian Coats,

Michael Nash, Andy Ward

Richard Burbridge, Nathaniel Goldberg, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS Paola Kudacki, Terry Richardson,

Martin Schoeller, Mark Seliger, Peggy Sirota, Carter Smith. Michael Thompson, Ben Watts

Carly Holden COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR Michelle Isaacs PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER Catherine Gundersen EDITORIAL BUSINESS MANAGER Tanya Weston ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

### Anna Wintour

Those submitting manuscripts, photographs, artwork, or other materials to Gentlemen's Quarterly for consideration should not send originals unless specifically requested to do so by Gentlemen's Quarterly in writing. Unsolicited manuscripts, photographs, and other submitted materials must be accompanied by a self-addressed overnight-delivery return envelope, postage prepaid. However, Gentlemen's Quarterly is not responsible for any unsolicited submissions

### INCORPORATING IME

### VICE PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

### Howard Mittman

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER Stefanie Rapp ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER, INTEGRATED SALES **Edward Romaine** DIRECTOR, FINANCE & BUSINESS OPERATIONS Rory Stanton EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARKETING & BRAND STRATEGY Kristen Maloney Pagano

### ADVERTISING SALES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INTEGRATED PROGRAMS. GLOBAL FASHION DIRECTOR

Karen Landrud Drechsler Lisa Fields

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS ADVERTISING DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL FASHION

Gina Gervino Bobby Graham

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING DIRECTOR ADVERTISING DIRECTOR, FASHION & LUXURY GOODS

> Daryl Bowman EASHION MANAGER Julia Smith

> > LOS ANGELES Syd Cooper Hersh MIDWEST Sarah Jarvis NORTHWEST Greg Barnes

DETROIT Cindy Thieme FUROPE Rula Al Amad

SOUTHWEST REPRESENTATIVE Lewis Stafford Company, Inc. SOUTHEAST REPRESENTATIVE Peter Zuckerman, z-MEDIA

Susi Park GENERAL MANAGER, ADVERTISING Brita Bergh INTEGRATED BUSINESS DIRECTOR Janelle Teng BUSINESS MANAGER

Katie O'Hea SENIOR DIGITAL PLANNER DIGITAL PLANNER Megan Margel

DIGITAL SALES ASSOCIATES Adam Dadson, Shauna Teevens

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE VP & PUBLISHER Claire Caragol

SALES ASSISTANTS Erin Hickok, Emily Kogan,

Debbie Olsztyn, Elin Otharsson, Danielle Ruud, Sarah Ryan, Kendall Zaharris

### CREATIVE SERVICES & MARKETING

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTEGRATED MARKETING Fuaud Yasin SENIOR DIRECTOR, INTEGRATED MARKETING Krista Boyd DESIGN DIRECTOR Gregory Hall CREATIVE DIRECTOR Liz Khan

INTEGRATED PROJECTS DIRECTOR Kathleen Waugh MARKETING DIRECTOR Pamela Kaupinen DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS Jade Ruzzo

Darren McPherson SENIOR ART DIRECTOR EXECUTIVE MERCHANDISING STYLIST Brett Fahlgren SENIOR DESIGNER Elizabeth Johnson

MANAGERS, INTEGRATED MARKETING Brian Ellingwood, Nicole Spagnola

ASSOCIATE MARKETING MANAGER Elisabeth Bundschuh ASSOCIATE MANAGERS INTEGRATED MARKETING Delisha Fields, Anna Hunter

CREATIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT Hannah Hogensen

### PUBLISHED BY CONDÉ NAST

CHAIRMAN S. I. Newhouse, Jr. Charles H. Townsend CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Robert A. Sauerberg, Jr. PRESIDENT

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER David E. Geithner PRESIDENT- CONDÉ NAST MEDIA GROUP & Edward Menicheschi CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER Jill Bright CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER Joe Simon

SVP-OPERATIONS & STRATEGIC SOURCING David Orlin SVP-CORPORATE CONTROLLER David B. Chemidlin SVP-FINANCE Jennifer Graham SVP-EDITORIAL OPERATIONS Rick Levine

SVP-DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Nick Rockwell SVP-EDITORIAL ASSETS & RIGHTS Edward Klaris VP-MANUFACTURING Gena Kelly VP-PLANNING & STRATEGY Shen-Hsin Hung VP-HUMAN RESOURCES Nicole Zussman VP-DIGITAL OPERATIONS & MONETIZATION MANAGING DIRECTOR-REAL ESTATE Robert Bennis SVP-MARKET RESEARCH Scott McDonald SVP-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Julie Michalowski SVP-HUMAN RESOURCES JOAnn Murray SVP-CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS Patricia Röckenwagner VP-CN LICENSING John Kulhawik

VP-STRATEGIC SOURCING Tony Turner VP-DIGITAL PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT Chris.lones VP-SPECIAL PROJECTS Patty Newburger VP-CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS Joseph Libonati

### Christopher Guenther CONDÉ NAST MEDIA GROUP

-CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS Josh Stinchcomb VP-INSIGHTS & BRAND STRATEGY Daniella Wells VP-MARKETING SOLUTIONS Padraig Connolly VP-FINANCE Judy Safir

### CONDÉ NAST CONSUMER MARKETING

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT VP-CONSUMER MARKETING VP-PLANNING & OPERATIONS VP-CONSUMER MARKETING PROMOTION VP-MARKETING ANALYTICS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-CONSUMER MARKETING

### Monica Ray

Gary Foodim Matthew Hoffmever Gina Simmons Christopher Revnolds Heather Hamilton

### CONDÉ NAST ENTERTAINMENT

PRESIDENT Dawn Ostroff

EVP-CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER Sahar Elhabashi EVP-MOTION PICTURES Jeremy Steckler EVP-PROGRAMMING & CONTENT STRATEGY, DIGITAL CHANNELS

Michael Klein EVP-CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER Fred Santarpia EVP-ALTERNATIVE TV Joe LaBracio CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER Lisa Valentino SVP-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGY Whitney Howard

VP-DIGITAL VIDEO OPERATIONS Larry Baach VP-TECHNOLOGY Marvin Li VP-REVENUE OPERATIONS Jason Baird VP-MARKETING Meilee VP-PRODUCTION Jed Weintrob VP-BRANDED CONTENT & SALES MARKETING Anissa E. Frey

VP-SCRIPTED TV Gina Marcheschi



# POLO RED RALPH LAUREN



4 LIFT REIS

THE MEN'S FRAGRANCE BY RAIPH LAUREN

SEPHORA AND SEPHORA.COM

# REPORT

### ADVERTISING | EVENTS | PROMOTIONS









SEPTEMBER 2014 | TORONTO

### Hugo Boss and *GQ* Host Post-Premiere Party at TIFF

GQ and Hugo Boss partnered to host the post-premiere party for The Riot Club at this year's Toronto International Film Festival. The film's stars—Douglas Booth, Max Irons, Sam Claflin, and Holliday Grainger—were in attendance, as well as Toronto Maple Leafs players Jonathan Bernier, Joffrey Lupul, Phil Kessel, and Dion Phaneuf. They were joined by the city's fashion set and entertainment elite at hot new venue Colette. Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Executive Chef Michael Steh.









### What's New on

### **Gain Knowledge**



### **An Abridged History of Denim**

Learn how jeans went from being a blue-collar staple to the choice of rebel-style kings like Ryan Gosling.

### See the Sexiest Women of 2014





### **Update Your Wardrobe**



### **30 ESSENTIAL FALLTRENDS**

The clothes and accessories to get that of-the-moment look.

**Stay Connected**Get more GQ by following us on:







FACEBOOK

**TWITTER** 

GOOGLE+



PINTEREST



TUMBLR



INSTAGRAM



Find the best places to eat. drink, and sleep on your mobile device with **GQ City** Guides.



INTRODUCING



INCREDIBLY RARE.
EXCEPTIONALLY CRAFTED.

TO OUR MASTER BREWERS,
THE 1759 IS BREWED WITH
PEATED WHISKY MALT,
JUST LIKE THOSE USED IN THE
WORLD'S FINEST WHISKIES.
THE RESULT IS A BEER BURSTING WITH
CHARACTER AND DEPTH WITH A RICH
BUTTERSCOTCH AROMA AND JUST
A SUBTLE HINT OF CARAMEL AND HOPS.
THIS IS A BEER TO BE EXPERIENCED,
NOT JUST ENJOYED.





## GQ MEN: THE BOOK

The perfect gift for every stylish man on your list. 55 years of looking sharp and living smart all rolled into a coffee-table book with more than 300 pages of iconic images and an introduction by Editor-in-Chief Jim Nelson.

Available Now | assouline.com

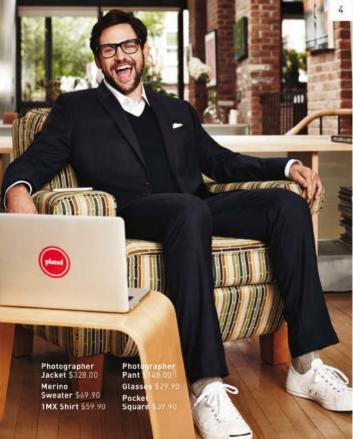


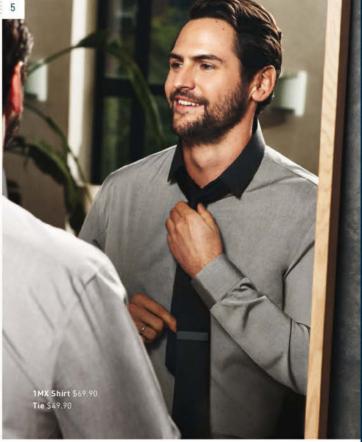
### **ASSOULINE**











### 2. 9:00 A.M.

In casual mode with his coffee: This hooded sweater comes accented with leather shoulder patches. The slimleg fleece pant is a step up from sweats.

### 3. **NOON**

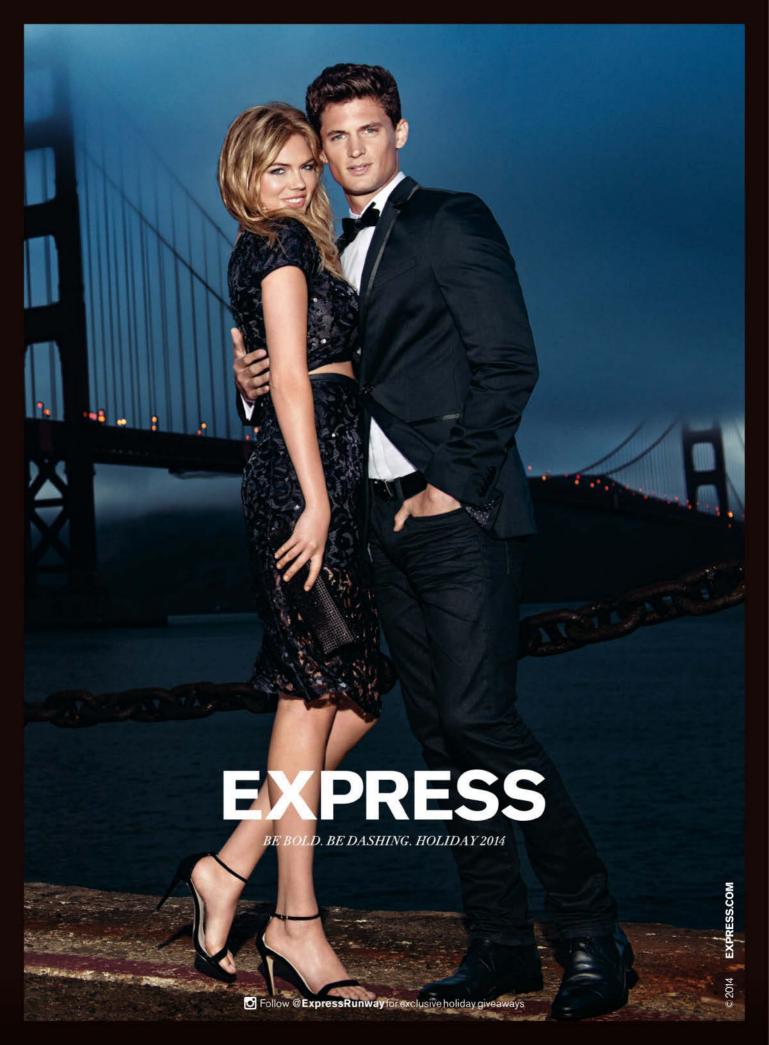
A white-collar guy who's not afraid to roll up his sleeves. No necktie here, but a V-neck sweater to keep things looking neat.

### 4. 3:00 P.M.

An investor meeting calls for some suiting up. This one is in flannel, a great cold-weather fabric, paired with sneakers that give the ensemble a younger, hipper feel.

### 5. 6:00 P.M.

Taranto ups his game for evening, with a 1MX limited-edition shirt with contrast collar and a matching tie—a professional combo that also works for nightlife.



# THE VISA® BLACK CARD MADE OF STAINLESS STEEL MADE OF STAINLESS STEEL

BLACK CARD.

4000 1234 5678 9010

GOOD 01/17 A.L. TAYLOR

VISA

Black Card Members Enjoy: An Industry-Leading Rewards Program • Exclusive 24-Hour Concierge Service

VIP Treatment at over 3,000 Properties • VIP Airport Lounge Access

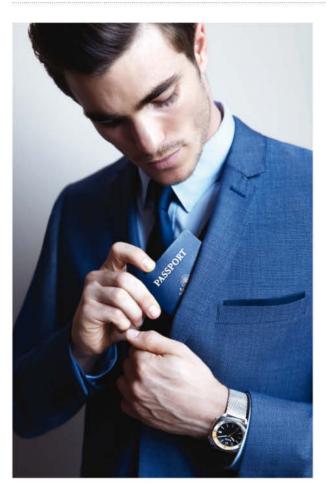
Members-Only Luxury Magazine • Luxury Gifts from the World's Top Brands

APPLY NOW AT BLACKCARD.COM OR CALL 866-BLACK CARD.

## MADISON AVENUE MODERN

There's a reason 1960s style inspiration comes back around again and again in menswear collections—it's the iconic, much romanticized archetype of the alpha male from a time when guys dressed up to take a lady out, and boarding a plane in anything but a suit was considered uncivilized. Times have changed, but classics from that era will always look sharp.

Last month we introduced you to **Bulova Accutron II**, a new collection from the American luxury watchmaker, inspired by original designs from the '60s. Here are two more collections from the line, with the same proprietary Ultra High Frequency (UHF) movement and sweeping second hand, and style suitable for the modern "mad man."



### FLYING FIRST CLASS †

The three-piece suit has returned, and you can bring swagger back to the skies by wearing one next time you fly. A well-cut suit in a luxe fabric, like a wool-cashmere blend, is incredibly comfortable. Keep the colors simple and add a statement watch for extra international-man-of-mystery appeal. You'll turn more than a few heads.





### SNORKEL COLLECTION \$499-\$650

We love the bold pop of color on this otherwise simple stainless steel piece. And in case of an emergency water landing, it's water-resistant.

Shown on model in stainles steel with mesh bracelet

### IN FAIRER COMPANY .

Step up your romance and style game on your next dinner date. You can't go wrong with a simple black suit and skinny tie with a crisp white shirt. Wear them with a gold watch and cuff links to add some swoon-worthy old-school glamour.



### SURVEYOR COLLECTION \$450-\$625

The ultimate classic, this is the modern take on the family heirloom your father would pass down from his father. It's a power piece at the office and elegant on a night out. Plus, the gold model is sold with a pair of limited-edition Bulova cuff links.

Shown on model in goldtone stainless stael with signature cuff links







• The ever expanding GQ universe makes a mark all month long. We've got the most impactful moments, distilled.



• From left, En Noir designer Rob Garcia, GQ editor-in-chief Jim Nelson, John Elliott + Co designer John Elliott, GQ creative director Jim Moore, Brooklyn Tailors designer Daniel Lewis, and M. Nii designer John Moore.

### lenswear's Night Out

- → To honor the new class of GQ Best New Menswear Designers and their recently launched capsule collections at Gap, we celebrated on the roof of the Ace Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Here, some post-party thanks from the winning designers.
- "Thank you, GQ and Gap, for a really fun evening to celebrate #GQforGap"—M.Nii via Instagram
- "Amazing time in LA celebrating the #GQforGap release. Thank you, GQ and Gap, for curating such an amazing project"—En Noir via Instagram
- "Thanks to Gap and GQ for a wonderful evening" —Brooklyn Tailors via Instagram
  - "Today 🥼 GQ and Gap"—John Elliott
  - + Co via Twitter

GQ PREFERS THAT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR BE SENT TO LETTERS @ GQ.COM. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED.

### THE BEST AMERICAN **TRAVEL WRITING 2014**

Matthew Power, "Excuse Us While We Kiss the Sky," March 2013

Notables: Michael Paterniti, "The Luckiest Village in the World," May 2013

### THE BEST AMERICAN **MAGAZINE WRITING 2014**

**Wells Tower,** "The Old Man at Burning Man," February 2013

### THE BEST AMERICAN ESSAYS 2014

**Wells Tower,** "The Old Man at Burning Man," February 2013

Notables: Buzz Bissinger, "My Gucci Addiction," April 2013



### Julian Casablancas: **Brunch** Flip-Flopper

- → In our October profile, the Strokes singer identified "white people having brunch" as a reason for fleeing New York for the suburbs. Shortly after the story came out, he hedged his quote via Twitter.
- · for the record, i was specifically joking about when people dress up like it's the kentucky derby for LES brunch.



• i am not against the concept of weekend late breakfast, which people of all freedoms & hues should enjoy



### A Zombie Slayer's **Ravenous Fans**

→ Norman Reedus's October cover got the hearts of his female fans fluttering as they took to social media to pose with the issue in hand. Reedus re-posted many of his favorites, like the above. (We're with him.)



### "Zimmerman Family Values": Readers' Reactions

→ Amanda Robb's October story on George Zimmerman's family (above) two and a half years after Trayvon Martin's death incited many readers. Here, a representative response:

"Zimmerman wants

to financially benefit from killing Trayvon. His family seems like it was messed up vears before he met Trayvon. They're a bunch of paranoid schizophrenics" -OrangeCounty California via GQ.com

### THE BEST AMERICAN **SPORTS WRITING 2014**

Bucky McMahon, "Heart of Sharkness,"

Kathy Dobie, "Raider. QB Crusher. Murderer?," February 2013

Notables: Warren St. John. "Sympathy for the Devil," September 2013

### **BEST** of the **BEST**

The 2014 editions of the "Best American" anthologiesthose annual collections of knockout writing-had plenty of love to kick GQ's way. Check 'em out!







SHOP OUR EXCLUSIVE
COLLECTION OF GREAT GIFT IDEAS
FROM TODAY'S TOP DESIGNERS
AND BRANDS! TO SEE THE
ENTIRE STAR GIFTS COLLECTION,
VISIT MACYS.COM/GIFTS

# GIFTS GIVE. GET. SHARE.



## STAR GIFT CALVIN KLEIN Ottoman sweater. Misses. 89.50. ★ 1719891. Women. 99.50.

### **CALVIN KLEIN**

Dress shirt. \$75. ★ 1490720. Tie. \$65. ★ 1055503.





STAR GIFT
MARTHA STEWART COLLECTION™
Only at Macy's. Plush bathrobe for her
with matching headband. In the bath
department. \$60. ★ 1641351.

Watches shown carry warranties, to see a mff's warranty at no charge before purchasing, visit a store or write to: merchandise may not be carried at your local Macy's and selection may vary by store. 4100036 anced to show detail. Fine lewelry at select stores; log on to macys.com for locations, Almost all gemstones have beer treated to enhance their beauty and require special care, log on to macys.com/gemstones or ask your sales professional. Macy's Warranty Dept., PO Box 1026 Maryland Heights, MO 63043, attn Consumer Warranties. Advertised

### BOBBI BROWN

Scotch on the Rocks Warm Glow Eye Palette. \$75. ★ 1714656.



### STAR GIFT JACK BLACK POWER TRIP

6-pc. travel set, only \$52, a \$69 value. ★ 1636629.



### MAISON JULES

Only at Macy's. Sweater. Misses. 69.50. ★ 1598993.





### STAR GIFT LEVIAN®

1/2 ct. t.w.<sup>‡</sup> earrings with white and Chocolate Diamonds® in 14k Vanilla® gold. In our signature red box. \$1700. ★ 576767.





### **STAR GIFT CALVIN KLEIN**

Men's cotton/merino wool sweater. 89.50. ★ 1500708.



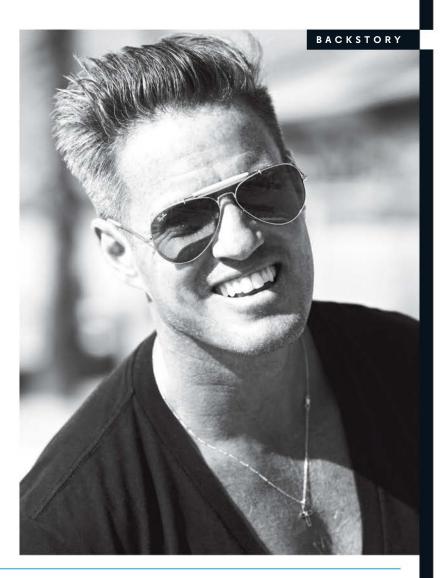
### STAR GIFT COACH

Watch with purple or pink (★ 1669273) silicone strap. \$158 each.



### **High Watt-age**

→ He's collaborated with us close to a hundred times over the past twenty years, so BEN WATTS knows a thing or two about how to pull off a GQ photograph. We enlisted him to shoot the entirety of the Breakouts portfolio: eight of the most exciting new stars in Hollywood. "We knew he'd match the energy of these young actors," says GQ director of photography Krista Prestek. How did he distinguish each pic? "I tried to tell a little story about each actor's personality to keep the shoots unique," says Watts. Putting the subjects at ease is one of his specialties. Creative director Jim Moore, who is side by side with Watts on most sets, says, "Ben has a secret weapon: While shooting, he says—several times—'It's your birthday!' Everyone smiles." Watts humbly elaborates. "I use humor to distract the talent," he says. "But let's be honest: My humor isn't for everybody."









→Newly minted *GQ* culture writer LINDY WEST wrote about this year's bizarre spate of cameos from '90s actresses for this month's Punch List. You'll see her byline often, in the magazine and online, atop stories both sharp in intelligence and hilarious in tone. So what does she prefer to write about? West: "I like making fun of stuff other people think is good, sticking up for stuff other people think is bad, and dragons."





→ Editors FREDDIE CAMPION (left) and NOJAN

AMINOSHAREI, otherwise known as our celebrity wranglers (and self-described as our version of Riggs and Murtaugh from Lethal Weapon), coordinate five shoots for an average GQ issue. For Men of the Year, they put together fifteen, including the eight for actors included in the Breakouts portfolio. How did they decide who made it in? "Every year has its breakouts, and it's never stopped Hollywood's hand-wringing over the death of the marquee star," says Aminosharei. "But this year presented such a virtuosic group of actors that we couldn't resist proving Hollywood wrong." In total, they coordinated shoots in four time zones. "We totally missed an opportunity to put a line of clocks on the wall in the office that say the time in London, New York, Los Angeles, and Dallas. I've always wanted to march in front of one of those and bark into a phone," says Campion. "Next year."



### SHEER MAGNETISM





## L'HOMME VesSaint/aurent

SEPHORA AND SEPHORA.COM

# REPORT

### ADVERTISING | EVENTS | PROMOTIONS



### Nashville's Hutton Hotel

Hutton Hotel redefines Southern luxury with unparalleled service and elegant, contemporary design. Appointed for refined comfort and modern convenience, this Forbes four-star property features an ideal location and is nationally recognized for its green initiatives. Its 1808 Grille offers top-of-the-line New American cuisine.

huttonhotel.com



### Word. Notebooks

Sharp on the outside and smart on the inside. Every **Word**. notebook features a unique bullet-point system created to help organize your notes and to-do lists. Everything you jot down will be cleaner, easier to navigate, and kept in a good-looking notebook. All of Word.'s 48-page pocket notebooks are proudly made in the USA and are designed to be archived.

wordnotebooks.com



### Coffee That Will Blow Your Mind

MistoBox delivers coffee from the best artisan coffee roasters across the country. A team of experts learns what kinds of coffees you like then sends you beans that will blow your mind. Can you say "perfect gift"?

mistobox.com/gq

Get 25% off gift or personal subscriptions with code GQCOFFEE.



### Grow Your Game™ With...

Success comes from more than just having confidence in yourself and your appearance; it's about knowing the rules of the game. Whether it's your life, your relationship, or your job, we all want to grow and succeed. The ROGAINE\*
Brand is here to give you the best tools to help unlock your full potential, so you can Grow Your Game\*.

facebook.com/rogaine



### Dillon Francis at Barclays Center in Brooklyn

Dillon Francis is bringing his massive headlining Friends Rule Tour to Brooklyn on Friday, January 16. Francis will be supported by Bro Safari, Totally Enormous Extinct Dinosaurs (DJ set), Anamanaguchi, and special guest DJ Hanzel.

barclayscenter.com

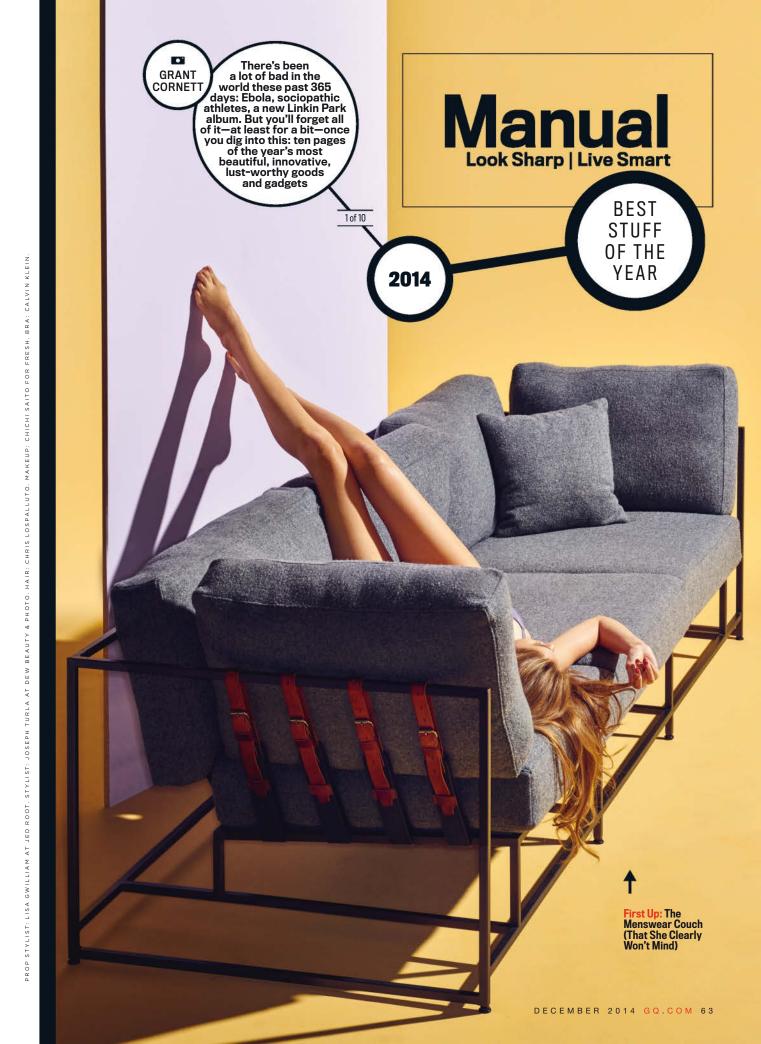


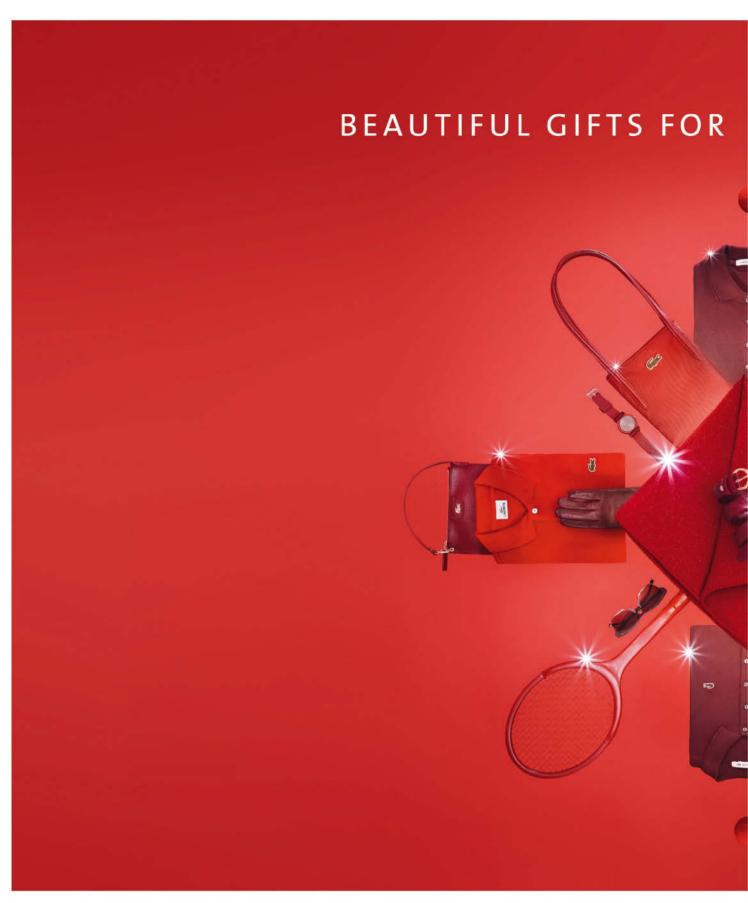
## 'TIS BETTER TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE. IN THEORY.











Visit our new digital boutique Lacoste.com #BEAUTIFULHOLIDAYS





#### Sit on This

You want a couch that's got some style and a little testosterone but doesn't look like a steak-house banquette. We know of one: Stephen Kenn's City Gym sofa, created with help from menswear designer Todd Snyder. The clever leather-strap suspension gives it a designy MacGyver vibe, while the Navy-spec blanket upholstery by Faribault Woolen Mill ensures you'll nap just fine during halftime.

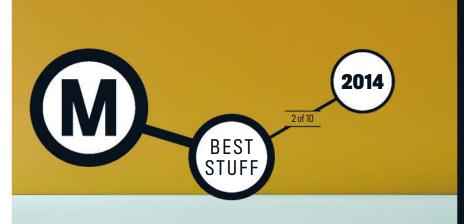
\$6,800 | stephenkenn .com

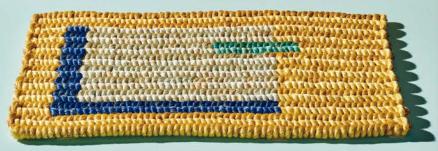
#### It's Designed to Get Dirty

You need a doormat—specifically, one that says something more interesting than "There's a Home Depot nearby." So you opt for Icelandic designer Hlynur Atlason's **Above Home floor mat**, which seems abstractly geometric until you realize that it's a bird's-eye view of a pool with a diving board. Which reminds you of the next item on your home-improvement to-do list: Get a pool.

\$90 | aplusrstore.com









#### The End of Grosswater



We're going to guess that the last time you changed the filter on your water pitcher was somewhere around never ago, which kinda renders the whole idea moot. The **Soma carafe** solves that problem, because when you buy one, you also subscribe to bimonthly filter deliveries that arrive at your doorstep. Soma, please tackle toilet paper next.

\$59 | drinksoma.com



#### Your Library's Greatest Hits



No one's ever going to compliment your intellect if you don't show off your book collection, but you have no room in your place for a mahogany-lined library with a sliding ladder. So pick up a lowlying **Book/Shop SSB-2 bookshelf**, modern and angular without being pretentious, and start showcasing a curated (but not, like, *too* curated) selection of your favorite reads.

\$199 | shopbookshop.com











A Better Booze Bag...and the Beer to Fill It With

From a company that

comes the **Yeti Hopper.** 

waterproof shoulder bag

built to ferry iced-up

brews are in short supply—the beach, the

beer to wherever cold

backyard, the stadium

the two-man hassle of

hauling around a hard-

sided cooler. If you're

of Allagash Saison,

a Belgian farmhouse

mangling hops quieted down in favor of citrus, spice, and a peppery bite. Pairs perfectly with bonfires

ale with taste-bud-

smart, you'll stuff it full

parking lot-without

made its name with bear-resistant coolers

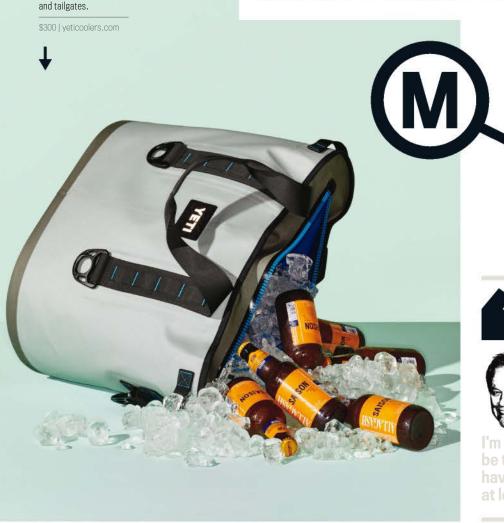
It's an insulated

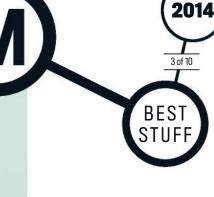
#### Blanket Your Place in Style

Home feeling a bit stale? You could break out a paintbrush and a Design Within Reach catalog-or you could take advantage of this year's explosion of attention-seeking blankets. We're talking ones with dialed-up Native American patterns and show-offy logo prints and greenslike, nuclear greensthat double as art you can afford (and she can get cozy under).

Blankets, clockwise from top left: Pendleton Woolen Mills \$239 | pendleton -usa.com | Louis Vuitton \$1,420 louisvuitton.com Woolrich \$185 woolrich.com/blankets





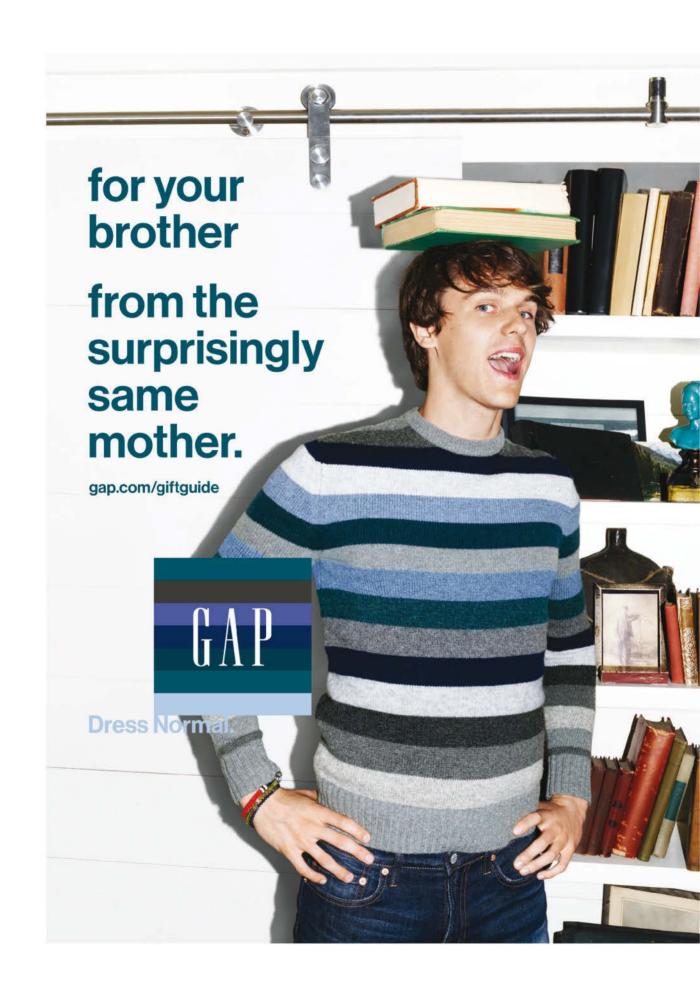


I bought a Molteni stove. It's made in France to your specifications exactly. I have four induction burners. I have a plancha on it. Two ovens.

I'm excited to say that it will be the last oven I'm going to have in my life—in my home, at least."-wolfgang puck, CHEF













#### **Get Plugged In**

The 4-in-1 Adapter from Flight 001 is a godsend for any traveler who's ever called the front desk and begged to borrow a Euro charger. An engineering marvel in primary colors, the 4-in-1 looks (and snaps together) like Legos. Pull it apart and you'll find socket solutions for more than 150 countries. Anywhere this thing won't work is someplace you don't wanna go, anyway.

\$25 | flight001.com

#### The Midnight-Patio-Party Saver

The Juniper M Lamp looks a lot like the classic miner's lamp it's based on. But instead of dragging a gas-filled fire hazard through a subterranean hellscape, you'll tote this guy (rechargeable, cordless, and super bright) out to the grill, say, or to the bathroom during a blackout. It's the gift of light, minus the black lung.

220 | juniper-design.com





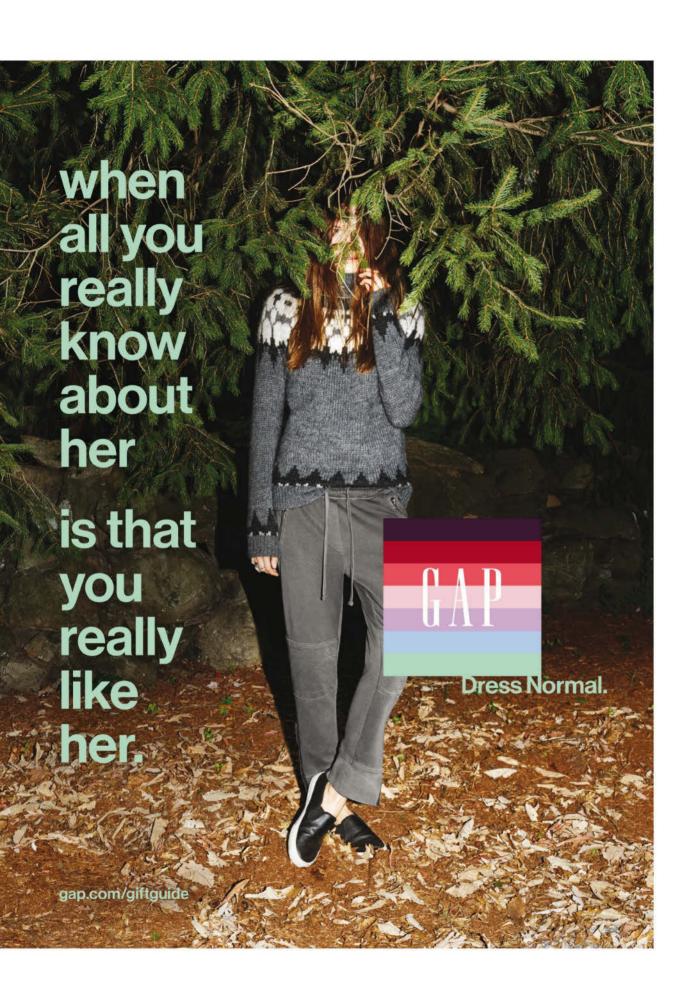


#### Thomas Keller Is My Sous-Chef



All-Clad could've tapped Guy Fieri for its cookware collaboration and sold a bajillion pots with frosted tips painted on the lids. Instead, the company called on food god Thomas Keller to create the **All-Clad TK Collection**, with a shape built for stacking, flared lips for easily pouring chili leftovers into Tupperware (or your mouth), and handles that are—miracle of miracles—comfortable to hold. Just promise you won't use the pots to make Donkey Sauce.

From \$120 | williams-sonoma.com





#### **Just Add Bartender**

There are bar carts that look pretty in the corner of your living room, and then there's the Moore & Giles Sidecar. It's a study in details, handbuilt in collaboration with cocktail guru Jim Meehan of New York's PDT: The Virginia walnut shelves wear leather so bottles don't thud, there are stash spots for glasses, and the butcher-blockesque top has a moat tracing its edges to keep spills contained. All that, and it looks very pretty in the corner of your living room.

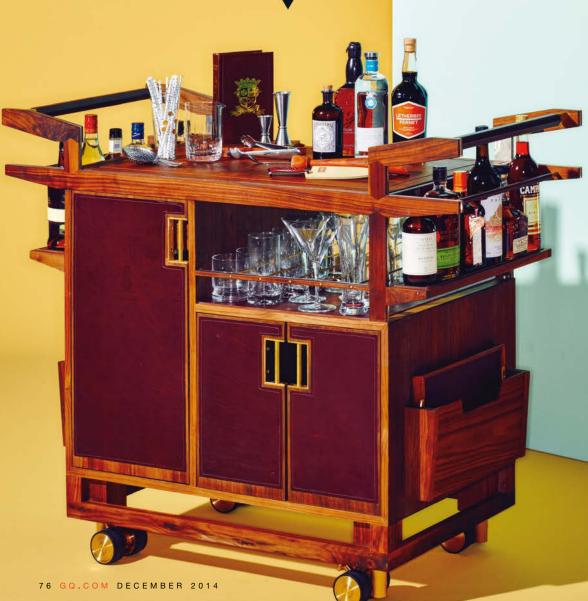
\$13,500 | mooreandgiles



#### The Best Buzzes of the Year

- 1. Distiller Dan Garrison scrawls the liquor's résumé-the corn varietal, the year of its harvest, the county it came from-onto every

  Garrison Brothers bourbon (\$94) bottle. Which makes every sip a very delicious lesson in agriculture.
- 2. Yes, Robert Parker is a wine guy. But he's the wine guy. And when the wine guy says that Monkey 47 gin (\$46)— made in Germany's Black Forest-is the best gin around, we listen. We tried. And we agree.
- 3. Fernet, the tarcolored Italian herbal liqueur, has become an improbable hit at bars across this great drunken nation. But if you're downing the bitter digestif at home, treat yourself to Letherbee Fernet (\$35), a smallbatch take that blends mint, licorice, rhubarb, and saffron into your new favorite nightcap.
- 4. Its creators pitch unaged Casa Dragones Blanco tequila (\$75) as being better suited to mixing than their sipping-worthy, slightly older Joven. They're wrong. The Blanco is too smooth and nuanced to be sacrificed to a mixer, a salt-rimmed coupe, or-God, no-a shot glass. Drink it straight.





NEW YORK LONDON MILAN MADRID ISTANBUL TOKYO HONG KONG SHANGHAI





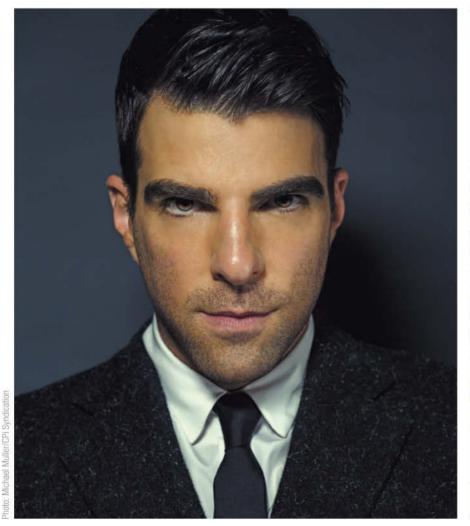






## THE GENTLEMEN'S FUND

#### GO CELEBRATES EXTRAORDINARY MEN WHO ARE IMPROVING THE WORLD AROUND THEM.









### 2014 HONOREE ZACHARY QUINTO

Sometimes, the toughest role of all is being yourself. That's why actor Zachary Quinto champions The Trevor Project, a support organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. The group offers free, confidential suicide-prevention counseling via phone, IM, and text; since being founded in 1998–by three filmmakers behind *Trevor*, an Academy Award winning movie about a closeted

teenager-it has helped hundreds of thousands of endangered individuals and has saved many lives.

Quinto, who came out publicly in 2011, is an important figure in the struggle to gain social acceptance for people of all sexual orientations. Known for his roles in the *Star Trek* movies and the theater, not to mention his Emmy-nominated turn on TV's *American Horror Story*, Quinto has demonstrated to

self-doubting youth that one's inner self need not be an obstacle. And in his work with The Trevor Project, he has helped prevent a particularly painful type of tragedy.

Get involved at THETREVORPROJECT.ORG











play guitar, and I really like the Yamaha THR practice amp. It's insane. It's like every amplifier, pedal, and sound effect ever made for a guitar, put into one box."

-EDWARD NORTON, ACTOR, 'BIRDMAN'





#### Where Woods Meet Waves

Okay, yeah, we get that the **Octovo Off** Map longboard-a collaboration between the San Francisco designers and Oregon shaper Jason Tilley-is probably too beautiful, and almost definitely too expensive, to bust out for your weekly dawn patrol. So here's what you do: Hang it on the wall, where you can gawk at the grain of the cedar, the casttitanium leash cup, rails shaped to take on waves almost anywhere in the world, and an ombré paint job that took weeks to get right. Order a separate board from Tilley, also built from local woods but much more affordable. to ride every day. Then, when you finally set off for your holy-grail break-in Australia or Bali or Hawaii-put the longboard beauty in its custom carrying case, leather fin protector on snugly, and prepare to rip.

3,600 | octovo.com



Stay Dry, Stay Fly

No major city combines

rain and fashion

Seattle-maybe a

to invest in a real

like London. (Sorry,

little less fleece.) So

when the time comes

umbrella, one that can

beat back a downpour

statement, try the

and double as a fashion

**London Undercover** 

**British Woodland** 

**Camouflage City** 

Gent. And try not to

leave it in a taxi.

undercover.co.uk

\$185 | london

(2014

82 GQ.COM DECEMBER 2014





GIORGIO ARMANI

ACQUA DI GIORGIO ARMANI

POUR HOMME

AVAILABLE AT MACY'S AND MACYS.COM

SCENT OF FREEDOM



#### Your Shoes Should Be House-Trained

Just walked in the door after work? House shoes. Hosting a party but don't want to stomp around your place in lace-ups? House shoes. Dreading the combo of a midnight leak and icecold tiles? House shoes. Specifically, these









#### The Coffee Machine That Nerds Out (So You Don't Have To)

The Ratio Eight automatically mimics the pour-over, that laborious by-hand brewing process every java snob and barista swears will deliver the best cup possible. But instead of questionable tattoos, the machine wears cast aluminum and Oregon walnut. And doesn't expect a tip.

\$480 | ratiocoffee.com



#### **Arson Never Looked So Good**

A leather matchbox? Yes, a leather matchbox. Stick the Jack Spade Burn Baby Burn Matchbox by a candle in your bathroom or on your coffee table. Because you're a classy gentleman who would never let a guest spark a joint with one of those longsnouted grill lighters.

\$48 | jackspade.com





in a little car."-HANNAH FERGUSON, MODEL



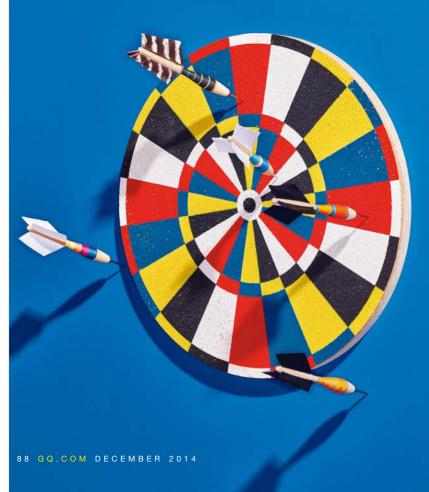
# amazon fireTV

- Use voice search to quickly find TV shows, movies, actors, directors, apps and games.
- ☐ The easiest way to watch Netflix, Hulu Plus, Amazon Instant Video, and more.
- Watch hundreds of thousands of movies and TV episodes like Game of Thrones, including exclusives such as Alpha House and Under the Dome.



Now available on Amazon Instant Video: Game of Thrones, 12 Years a Slave and much more.







#### Throw 'Em at the Wall, See What Sticks

The fun of owning a Ping-Pong or pool table is offset by the brotastic shadow either casts over a room. So grab the Fredericks & Mae darts and dartboard—the former maple-barreled and thread-wrapped; the latter a trippy test-patterned cork. The set's almost as enjoyable to look at as it is to play with.

Darts, \$200 for four; Dartboard, \$140 fredericksandmae.com



#### CONTRIBUTORS:

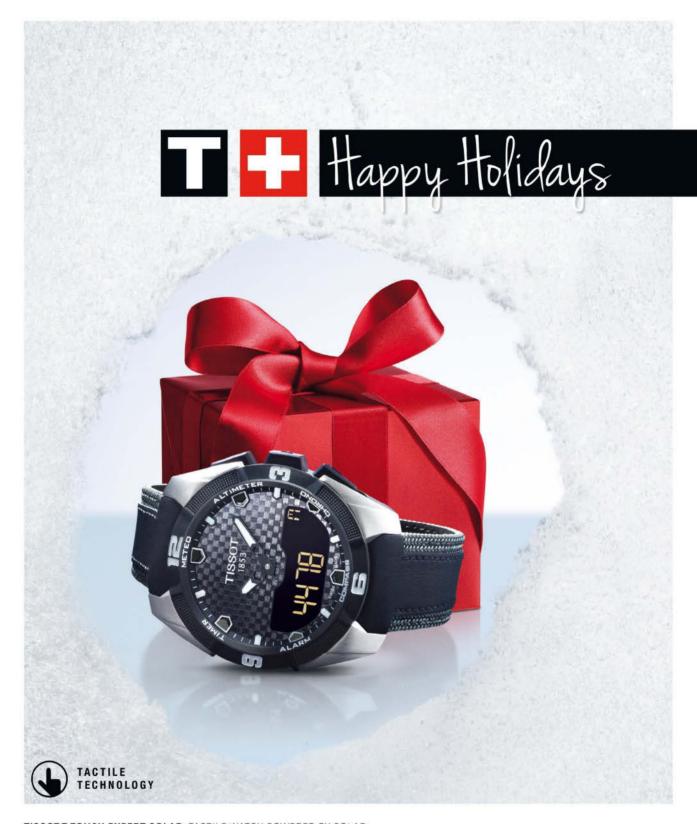
MARK BYRNE, WILL GORDON, NICK MARINO, SAM SCHUBE, KEVIN SINTUMUANG, ERIC SULLIVAN, MYLES TIPLEY, JON WILDE



#### The Future Can Do 150 mph

For a while it seemed as if our automotive future would involve lounging in teensy robo-cars while a Googlebrain did all the driving. But here we are in 2014, the year that supercars became super-clean—none more so than the **BMW i8.** It's an agglomeration of our most advanced tech: a plug-in hybrid system that lets you cruise for twenty miles on pure electric power or stomp the pedal for a rush of gasolineboosted adrenaline; carbon-composite body panels like you find on million-dollar exotics; freaking scissor doors. All appended to this swooping, cantilevered land shark that lets everyone know our future is here, and sexy, and still doesn't much care for speed limits.

\$136,650 | bmw.com



TISSOT T-TOUCH EXPERT SOLAR. TACTILE WATCH POWERED BY SOLAR ENERGY, OFFERING 20 FUNCTIONS INCLUDING WEATHER FORECAST, ALTIMETER AND COMPASS. INNOVATORS BY TRADITION.

TISSOT BOUTIQUES 666 5TH AVENUE . NEW YORK 45 WALL STREET . NEW YORK OPENING IN MID-NOVEMBER

TISSOTSHOP.COM/STORE-LOCATOR



LEGENDARY SWISS WATCHES SINCE 1853





If you dress well—and we know that as a GQ reader, you're

representing-then you're familiar with style jacking. It's when the guy in the cubicle across the hall shows up in the exact jacket, tie, and shirt you wore last Thursday. It's when a friend points to your shoes and asks, "Who made them?"—and then next weekend you're footwear twinsies. This is exactly why it's time to get into vintage. Yes, it can take a little more work than dropping onto a website and clicking "Add to cart" (though not always). But the hunt is half the fun. It takes you to meticulously assembled stores and sprawling flea markets, and ends with you wearing a piece that comes with its own storyand most important, a piece that guy across the hall can't bite, because you've got the only one. -MARK ANTHONY GREEN

92 GO.COM DECEMBER 2014



#### Rock These Tees

Even John Mayer fans can pull off vintage metal T-shirts

Jerry Lorenzo, seen here, creator of cool-kid label Fear of God, lets you off the hook for not being a Metallica fan but still rocking their tees. "To be honest, you don't have to like the hand to like the art. These vintage metal- and grungeband T-shirts have some of the dopest graphics ever," he says. When he finds a new one, he'll slice it up, rebrand it, and give it to friends like Rihanna. (Lucky RiRi.) But wailing skulls and propaganda-posterinspired art aren't the only reasons Lorenzo likes tees of a certain age: "I was first drawn to them for the fabric. They drape much better than a new T-shirt." And if it's good enough for RiRi, it's good enough for you.-M.A.G.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC RAY DAVIDSON



LEGEND THE FRAGRANCE FOR MEN



AVAILABLE AT MACY'S, MACYS.COM AND MONTBLANC BOUTIQUES

# A GIFT FOR A CENTURY, NOT JUST A SEASON.



#### GIVE THE RUNWELL SPORT CHRONO.

THE 48MM RUNWELL SPORT CHRONO WITH 3 EYE CHRONOGRAPH IN STAINLESS STEEL CASE, BLACK TURNING TOPRING, BLACK DIAL, DETROIT-BUILT ARGONITE 5050 MOVEMENT, AMERICAN-MADE BLACK RUBBER STRAP. BUILT TO LAST A LIFETIME OR LONGER UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHINOLA GUARANTEE.



Where American is made."

# M

#### **Go Vintage**





#### It's a Thing Now: Welcome to Holey-Wood!

Walk through L.A. and you'll see the best-dressed guys wearing vintage tees that look like they only barely survived a bear fight. If you're gonna take the plunge—and you're not a famous actor or rapper—start slow: a little stretch here, a snip there. (Maybe one day you can cut the entire back out, Gosling-style.) Then make it the first layer in a full outfit. That way, if you get hit with a breeze—or some regret—you can cover up.—M.A.G.



#### What Time Is It? 1967

Here's why the coolest timepiece that you can strap onto your wrist was born before you were

I got into vintage watches for a reason: I'm too damn poor for a floor-model Rolex or Omega or IWC. Pretty quickly I realized that throwback timepieces, especially the simple, classic dress watches of the '60s and '70s—like that Art Deco Universal Genève

Polerouter on the left (about \$1,200) and that crispy clean Rolex Oysterdate (roughly \$3,000) on the right—deliver equal panache without destroying my bank account. Just be careful: You can take your chances on eBay, but the expertise

and guarantees you'll get from dedicated vintage-sourcing shops like Analog/Shift (analogshift.com) and Matthew Bain (matthewbaininc.com) mean you won't have to worry about rocking a vintage Faux-lex.

–JON WILDE

#### THE TREASURE MAP

...

A guide to the country's best vintagehawking stores, fairs, and secret stashes

by Michael Williams of the blog A Continuous Lean



#### MISTER FREEDOM

 Mister Freedom founder and French expat Christophe Loiron proves that sometimes the outsider's eye is the keenest. At this Hollywood haunt, expect to find the perfect chambray shirt, a great drab military jacket, or a T-shirt that other people will ask you about every time you wear it. It's up to you to tell them where or not. misterfreedom .com

#### BOBBY FROM BOSTON

· When you walk into the shop on Thayer Street, you get the sense this little space must be the tip of the iceberg. And you're right. Bobby has a huge warehouse in Lynn, Massachusetts, that is the holy land of American vintage, with everything from golden-era J.Press to the quintessential vet cool Hawaiian shirt. Ask nicely and maybe you'll win yourself a weekday appointment there. bobby-from -boston.com

#### **Get Their Greatest Hits**

When you're looking to show off, a bygone piece from a fashion label's most coveted collection will earn you all the street cred you've ever wanted.—JAKE WOOLF



Wear It with Pride | Patagonia ('80s)
• You know that warm, fuzzy feeling you get when

 You know that warm, fuzzy feeling you get when you put on a Patagonia fleece? It's even warmer when you know you're slipping into one from the company's made-in-the-U.S.A. heyday, Go, 'Merical



Outerwear for the Inner Circle | Polo ('90s)
Ralph Lauren's Snow Beach collection—all electric colors and exploded screen prints—gives vintage-lovers fever dreams. It's so rare we had to borrow this jacket from hitmaker Just Blaze.



The Lost Label | Nom de Guerre (2003–2010)
• Nom de Guerre (R.I.P.) was ahead of its time with its dark, military-inspired streetwear. This parka checks all the boxes of what it did well. Pour some out for the fallen label.

#

#### For the 8th consecutive year, the United States THE MOST Bartenders' Guild and Bombay Sapphire. Gin explored bars and restaurants across the United States and Canada to find North America's most talented and imaginative bartenders. These men and women are reinventing the rules of mixology-BAKTENDER creating inspired cocktails that fashion truly meaningful experiences for their guests. Ran Duan of Boston crafted a cocktail worthy of kings and queens and was duly crowned the

2014 Most Imaginative Bartender.

"My cocktail was inspired by the heritage of BOMBAY SAPPHIRE, Gin and my hometown of Boston, using ingredients that represented both."

The 2014 MOST IMAGINATIVE BARTENDER, serving his winning cocktail, "THE MONARCHY."

BOMBAY ô SAPPHIRE

# Bartenders ARE Inspired

# IN THE BOMBAY SAPPHIRE. BOTANICAL OASIS



The inspiration and creativity of North America's top bartenders were on display at the United States Bartenders' Guild's **Most Imaginative Bartender** competition, sponsored by **BOMBAY SAPPHIRE**. Gin.











For three days, 38 bartenders shook, stirred and muddled under the relentless desert sun, transforming Las Vegas into a sublime botanical oasis. With fruits, spices and handcrafted elixirs in hand, they presented their creations to a panel of cocktail and industry experts, which judged them on criteria including presentation, taste and imagination. Throughout the event, the number of competitors was pared down to five remarkable finalists with tremendous talent and creativity.

On the final night of the competition and in front of a live audience, the five finalists shared the inspiration behind their cocktails, which used ingredients ranging from Maidenhair Fern to Bolivian Rose Salt Water. Each drink was carefully reviewed by the judges, who ultimately determined the one whose creator was deemed the 2014 Most Imaginative Bartender.

The competition concluded with Boston's Ran Duan taking the top spot for his three-part cocktail titled "The Monarchy." A true feast for the senses, Duan's creation employed tastes of lemon, apple and **BOMBAY SAPPHIRE**. Gin, with a complementary aromatic cardamom fog.

With his victory, Duan will now represent the United States in the World's Most Imaginative Bartender competition in London.







## THE Let OF THE Cocktail

#### **SAPPHIRE** ULTIMATE MARTINI COCKTAIL

3 parts BOMBAY SAPPHIRE Gin Dash NOILLY PRAT Vermouth

Pour ingredients into a shaker filled with ice. Stir thoroughly and strain into a chilled coupe martini cocktail glass. Garnish with green olives or a lemon twist, if desired.

#### SAPPHIRE, EAST & TONIC

- 1½ parts BOMBAY SAPPHIRE.
  East Gin
- 4 parts premium tonic water

Build with ice in a balloon glass. Garnish with lemongrass stalk, black peppercorns and lime slice.

#### SAPPHIRE, AVIATION

2 parts BOMBAY SAPPHIRE, Gin

34 part fresh lemon juice

1/2 part maraschino liqueur

1/4 part Crème de Violette liqueur

Pour ingredients into a shaker filled with ice. Shake well and strain into a cocktail glass. Garnish with a maraschino cherry, if desired.



#### MEET THE 38 BARTENDERS WITH THE SKILLS, CRAFT AND CREATIVITY TO POUR THEIR WAY TO LAS VEGAS:

- 1 Seth Sempere, Seattle, WA
- 2 Annie Williams, Cleveland, OH
- 3 Ran Duan, Boston, MA
- 4 Bonnie Wilson, Dallas, TX
- 5 Leslie Ross, Houston, TX
- 6 Craig Nelson, Charleston, SC
- 7 Trevor Frye, Washington, D.C.
- 8 Ian Cox, Atlanta, GA
- 9 Tacy Rowland, Denver, CO
- 10 Liz Pearce, Chicago, IL
- 11 Brock Schulte, Kansas City, MO
- 12 Ben Clemons, Nashville, TN
- 13 Vincenzo Cangemi, New York, NY

- 14 Justin Lavenue, Austin, TX
- 15 Chas Williams, Detroit, MI
- 16 Brian Means, San Francisco, CA
- 17 Jessica "Jack" Wyrick, Birmingham, AL
- 18 Dan Lan Hamm, Philadelphia, PA
- 19 Tyler Kleinow, Minneapolis, MN
- 20 Delbis "Del" Fernandez, Miami, FL
- 21 Sean Thibodeaux, Louisville, KY
- 22 Tyler Stevens, Portland, OR
- 23 Julie Warning, New York, NY
- 24 Michael Allmandinger, Phoenix, AZ
- 25 Robin Kaufman, Toronto, ON
- 26 Lee Peppinck, Calgary, AB

- 27 Mark Murphy, New York, NY
- 28 Andrew Lue, Miami, FL
- 29 Philip Khandehrish, Miami, FL
- 30 Juyoung Kang, Las Vegas, NV
- 31 Amber Dawn Peterson, New Orleans, LA
- 32 Liisi Kütt, Port of Miami, FL
- 33 Ioana Luncean, Port Canaveral, FL
- 34 Brad Coburn, Tampa, FL
- 35 Meghan Eastman, San Diego, CA
- 36 James Bowers, Los Angeles, CA
- 37 Kevin Demers, Montreal, QC
- 38 Graham Racich, Vancouver, BC

#### #MIB2014





#### A GQ ORIGINAL SERIES



Fifteen finalists from across the nation square off for the title of America's Most Imaginative Bartender. Hosted by BOMBAY SAPPHIRE. Gin in Las Vegas, competitors will go head-to-head in an epic cocktail showdown, where they'll have to use one mystery ingredient as the clock ticks down. See who comes out on top!

#### WATCH NOW: VIDEO.GQ.COM OR THESCENE.COM/GQ

SPECIAL THANKS TO:







ary Hayward, Host and North American Brand nbassador, Bombay Sapphire: Gins









Twitter is a registered trademark of Twitter, Inc.

#### **Go Vintage**

3 of 3



#### Enlist in More-Stylish Outerwear

Vintage isn't always easy to dive into: Old doesn't equal on-point, as the lapels of the '70s and the shoulder pads of the '80s prove. But you can always count on military outerwear to look right in any era. That's because bombers and field jackets and M65s haven't changed much since their inception-older versions just come with a better story. And as vintage-hunter Bob Melet, who let us borrow this jacket, puts it, "Everyone respects a military piece." In other, crasser, words: Chicks still dig a man in uniform.-M.A.G.



When this aviator jacket came out, technically the Air Force didn't even exist yet. It's that old—and timeless. Just don't wear it with a khaki military shirt and chinos, or you'll look like you're about to deploy."—BOB MELET, MELET MERCANTILE

#### Finally, a Cure for Vintage Funk



 What use is the perfect 1950s bomber jacket if it means you'll smell like Salvation Army mold? The good folks at RTH in L.A. have invented a tonic that takes that vintage funk out of clothes using only natural oils that won't ruin your best finds.-M.A.G.

The RTH Vintage Spray | \$52 | rthshop.com

#### **Distressing That Can't Be Dissed**

Denim-heads are getting into vintage because they know the only thing better than breaking in your jeans is not needing to.



Distressed jeans are the biggest trend in denim right now-but even a denim novice can tell fake distressing from the real thing. Instead of dropping trillions of ven at your neighborhood online Japanesedenim supplier, find a vintage pair that some guy already broke in for you. If the fit needs a little updating, take them to your tailor. If your tailor is suits-only, fire your tailor.-M.A.G.



#### INSPIRATION L.A.

· This yearly flea market is all about the rarest (read: most expensive) vintage clothing around. Expect astronomical prices and tons of professional buyers willing to outbid you. And no selfies: Vendors assume picture takers are designers trying to get inspiration without paying. inspirationla .com

#### **BRIMFIELD**

• The thriceyearly antiques market takes over every usable inch of space in the otherwise sleepy town of Brimfield, Massachusetts. Clothing isn't the main draw. but the sheer magnitude of this flea market means there's still a huge offering. Pro tip: Brimfield staggers section openings, so check the schedule and try to be first at as many as possible. brimfield.com

#### THE ROSE BOWL FLEA MARKET

• The Pasadena mecca for vintage-clothing dealers that goes down on the second Sunday of every month. The selection is wide, and the prices feel like retail, but you can find a deal if you dig deep and barter. Hardcore buyers who want a first look don't just arrive early-they rent a booth and shop during setup. rgcshows.com



AZZARO

THE ICONIC MEN'S FRAGRANCE AVAILABLE AT MACY'S

### The Style Guy

#### Glenn O'Brien

**Solves Your** Sartorial Conundrums





#### Attention. Shoppers

> I am 21 and am tired of looking 40 percent great, 60 percent freshman in college. I want to spend \$1,500 and get some nice clothes. Where should I go, my man? » To be truthful, I'd have to say J.Crew offers the best style and value I should also admit that I have friends there, and I have a discount card they sent me. But once I got my first Ludlow suit, I kept going back. Your budget will buy you a couple of fine suits and the kit to go with them.

#### Muff: vb, to play badly

> For toes I have socks, for fingers gloves, and for my nose a scarf. But I've never found anything stylish designed specifically to keep my ears warm in the winter. Is there any accessory that

covers the ears and is less ridiculous than earmuffs and less threatening than a balaclava? Or are there goodlooking earmuffs? » If you're not dressed for the weather, you look like a fool; it's that simple. If it's singledigit cold, I may be in black tie under my chesterfield coat, but with a black cashmere watch cap pulled down over my ears. There are alternatives, however. Russianstyle fur hats often have turndown earflaps, and if it dips below zero or the polar vortex is blasting, you can untie the fur flaps and get double coverage. Many Persian-lamb diplomat caps also feature turndown earflaps. You can also find great fake-fur hats with the same features but less political baggage. If you have a flair for the dramatic, no shame, or both, there's

#### I live in Wisconsin, where you can carry a gun as long as it's visible. What's the most stylish way to holster a pistol?

Have you considered a drop-loop double holster with rawhide tie-downs and double bandoliers? Of course, that's probably best with a dresseddown look, like a Packers jersey and a cheesehead hat. For dressier occasions, maybe a vertical shoulder holster like the Idaho Leather Company's Last Man Standing model. They'll be ducking into doorways when they see you coming into Oshkosh wearing your Colt in that gizmo. Wear highly polished conchas on your hatband and you can blind your dueling opponent by catching the sun in them.

the deerstalker, or Sherlock Holmes cap. There's no such thing as goodlooking earmuffs except on foxy ski bunnies.

#### Check or

Checkmate? > How do you feel about buffalo plaid in the workplace? Too cabin-in-thewoods for the modern office? » If the workplace is a lumberyard or a hardware store or any place where hunting season presents a hazard, fine. If you are Terry Richardson, why not? But if you work in something resembling a

normal office, you may suddenly find vourself transferred to the Butte or Billings branch.

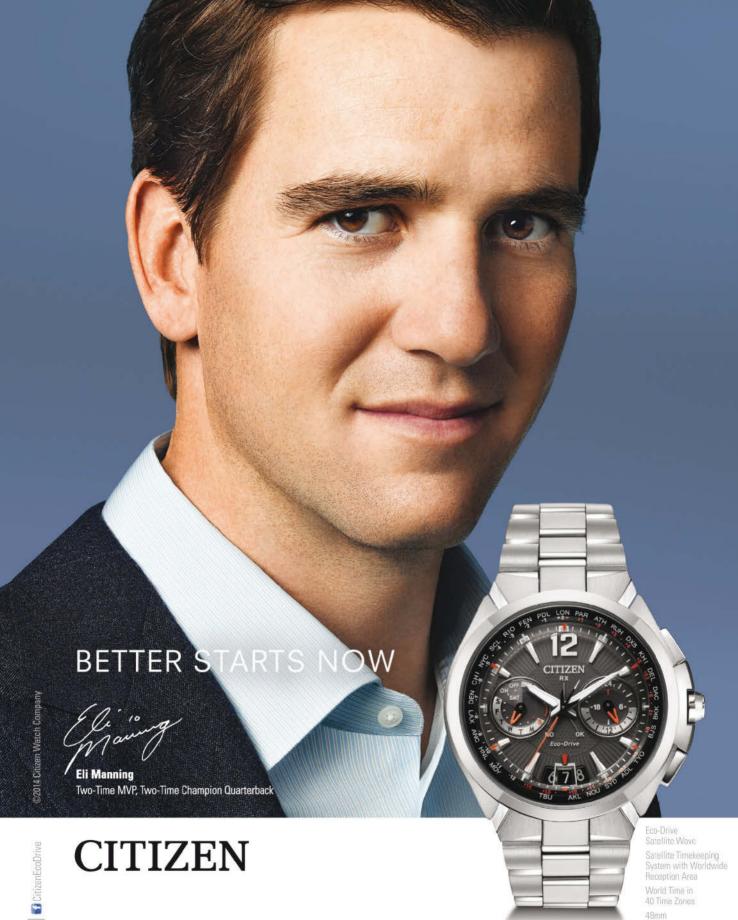
#### **Tops in Hats**

I'm planning a trip to London this winter, and I want to know what style of hat I should wear so as not to stand out like an obvious tourist. Is there a specific type of hat you'd recommend? >> London has some of the best hat shops in the world. I suggest you shop when you get there, enjoy expert help, and try on whatever you fancy. The best hatters are Bates on Jermyn Street,

Christys' at Princes Arcade off Jermyn Street, and Lock & Co on St. James's Street. You'll find fedoras across the color spectrum, tweed caps and deerstalkers, and exotica like bowlers and top hats. For summer, Bates offers a nifty rollup Panama that can survive an airliner's overhead bin.

#### **Hanging Loose**

> On which occasions can a guy wear sweatpants? I thought I knew the answer to this, but times are a-changing » Personally, I limit my sweatpants wear to actual athletic endeavors. But in recent decades, we have seen sweats' widespread adoption as casualwear, perhaps as the national obesity rate has skyrocketed. They seem to be worn by oversize bouncers, bodyguards, and repo men and in the hip-hop industry. I suppose if normal levels of physical activity are enough to make you sweat, it makes sense. Sweats also seem to be popular for air travel now, and with economy passenger space already smaller than coffin size, this use seems entirely justifiable.



citizenwatch.com 16 CitizenEcoDrive

Available at Citizen Flagship Store Times Square MACY'S macys.com



## NOTHING IN MODERATION

#### INTRODUCING THE FIRST-EVER RC F SPORT

Born from a blank sheet of paper, we engineered it with a 306-horsepower, 3.5-liter V6 engine paired with a sequential paddle-shift transmission, standard Adaptive Variable Suspension and available Dynamic Rear Steering to produce maximum power with precision handling. A wide body stance and low profile deliver increased stability while a unique mesh grille insert and 19-inch alloy wheels² complete its aggressive look. Inside the cockpit, an LFA-inspired gauge cluster keeps you informed while enhanced, bolstered front sport seats keep you firmly planted through curves. The RC 350 F SPORT from Lexus. Once driven, there's no going back.

lexus.com/RC | #LexusRC







#### **Just Say No to** Plus-Size Phones

→ Oliver Stone's 2010 Wall Street sequel opens with the sight gag of Gordon Gekko being released from prison and retrieving his stuff, including a thirteen-inch, two-pound '80s-era DynaTAC phone. My first mobile was a fraction of that size but still resembled an army walkie-talkie. My first cool phone cost a cool grand in '96, when Motorola introduced the three-ounce, palm-sized StarTAC. It fit into your shirt pocket, and its small size made it very visible in the statusphere. Then the iPhone and its competitors came along and everything got bigger. The iPhone 6 Plus is nearly as big as a small tablet—I guess because people want to watch TV while they're walking and driving and take better sexting photos. Size is a dilemma. I'm still on the iPhone 5. It fits in my jeans and won't drag them down. Don't think I can go bigger again. Maybe I'll get the Apple Watch. That's what Dick Tracy would do. Besides, I stopped wearing a watch 'cause my phone tells time. Why not flip 'em?

If Gordon Gekko had an iPhone, he'd have incriminated himself much sooner.



> Is it totally out of line to wear Batman cuff links with a black tux? They're small and can be hidden easily, but I'm never sure where the line is drawn with quirky cuff links. Personally I like to see people wearing interesting ones, and I like to wear them myself, but I find a lot of men are afraid to sport them at formal events. I guess the real question is: How absurd can a man's cuff links be? » A typical blacktie kit features matching studs and cuff links. I usually wear a placketfront shirt without studs, which frees up my cuff-link possibilities. There's nothing wrong with a little absurdity as long as it's discreet, and I've had no qualms about wearing my genuine black-and-white Playboy-bunny links with my tux.

#### The New New York?

> I keep reading about how high rents are driving the artists out of New York City. So where are they now? Queens? Buffalo? Detroit? Where would you go if you had just graduated? >> In New York. where the hot artist hood of recent years, Bushwick, experienced a 50 percent rent increase in the past decade, we've been saying that Queens is the new Brooklyn. Some go to the Bronx, some go to Harlem. But New York is no longer the center of art production it once was, even though it remains the capital of the art business. I think, if I were a young artist or a reasonable facsimile thereof, I would move to Berlin:



> Men's fashion is full of so-called bomber jackets right now. But these don't look like bomber jackets to

me; they look like varsity jackets. Same thing happened last year, only they were calling them baseball jackets. Are we just recycling the same silhouette and giving it a different name every year? » A baseball jacket and a varsity jacket are the same thing, usually featuring a wool body and leather sleeves with a rib-knit collar, cuffs, and waistband. Varsity jackets, unless you actually made the varsity, usually come pre-owned, sporting a school letter and maybe an embroidered name, like, say, Skip or Butch. My favorite baseball jacket was the Supreme model with the Hunter S. Thompson quote: "I hate to

advocate drugs, alcohol, violence, or insanity to anyone, but they've always worked for me." A bomber jacket. a.k.a. flight jacket. is usually in leather. although it can be made of waxed canvas or flight-suit synthetics, and it often comes with a stand-up collar and may even mimic the old days of aviation with a sheepskin lining and collar. Of course, fashion terminology isn't science. They'd call it a stealthbomber jacket if they thought that would sell.

The Style Guy welcomes your questions. E-mail him at styleguy@gq.com. Plus: Find Glenn O'Brien on Twitter at @lordrochester.





• In good eveningwear, even young Frankenstein's monster falls in line.

#### **Tread Lightly**

> Is it appropriate to wear black suede brogues with a tuxedo? I seem to see tuxes paired only with shiny patent leather, but I want to stand apart. » Looking like a clod, oaf, or dolt will perhaps set you apart, but brogues will offend any good tux. Personally, I don't care for patent leather, and I find that black calfskin pumps or plain polished black oxfords look right. Brogues are not for tripping the light fantastic. Tuxedos are not for standing apart; they are for standing together. Let the ladies do the standing apart.





## GIVENCHY

## GENTLEMEN ONLY

**INTENSE** 

THE NEW FRAGRANCE FOR MEN





# Three Ways to Wear the Suit of the Season (Dog Optional)

The corduroy suit is making a major comeback, thanks to better tailoring by a slew of not-so-stuffy labels. The next step in the great cord revival? As Band of Outsiders designer Scott Sternberg shows, it's all about breaking it in—and breaking it up

1

#### Loosen Up the Cord

 Corduroy lesson number one: It's as chill as you want it to be. "I treat caramel corduroy like denim," Sternberg says. Add a bold sweater and you're out the door in eleven seconds flat. "There's no tie, so it doesn't feel like a suit anymore. But it still looks completely pulled-together."

+

sports jacket \$995 sweater \$325 | pants \$265

2

#### No Need to Be All Classy

If you want to make corduroy look proper—but not like it should be teaching English Lit 101— you've gotta twist the details. A navy cord jacket with a more fashion-forward one-button closure and flashy lapels? Yes. Worn over a pair of Astroturf green pants? Oh, hell yes.

Y.

sports jacket \$995 sweater \$495 | shirt \$325 tie \$155 | chinos \$265

3

#### Now Work It Out

• Give your go-to charcoal suit a break from office duty with an almost brown cord suit like this one. "Corduroy takes color differently than wool or traditional cotton does. It shifts and looks more dyed, says Sternberg. Bust out any shirt-andtie combo in your closet and you'll still stand out in a sea of flannel.-SAM SCHUBE

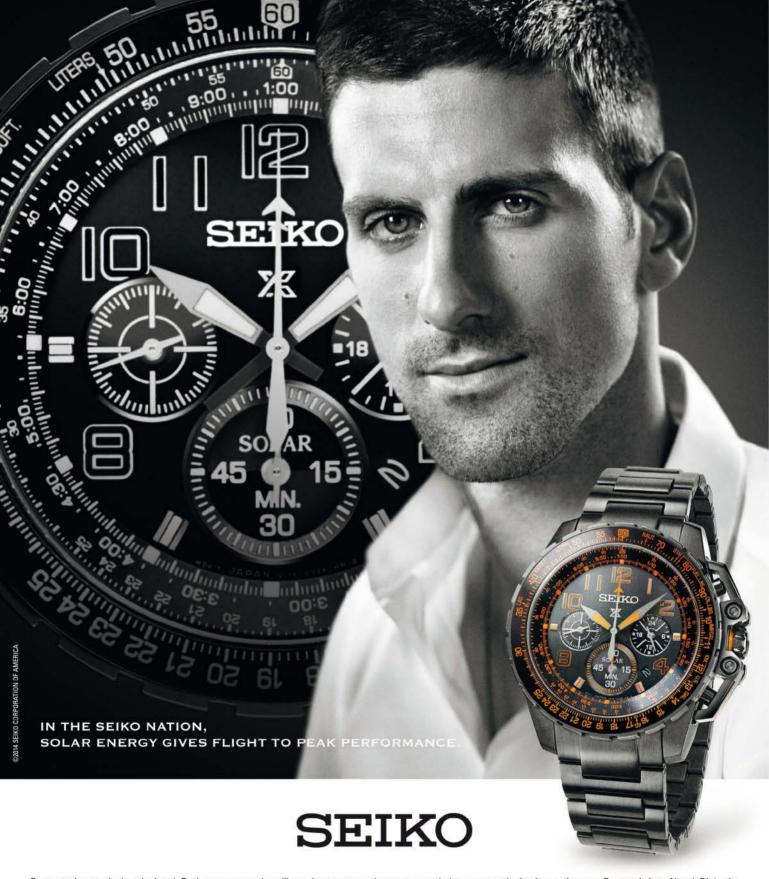
suit jacket \$840 | pants \$200 | shirt \$285 | tie \$155 | all by **Band of Outsiders.** Where to buy it? Go to GQ.com/go

/fashiondirectories





ROOMING: MIRA CHAI HYDE AT WALTER SCHUPFER MANAGEME



Every stroke, precisely calculated. Each game, expertly calibrated to conserve the energy needed to exert a winning burst of power. For tennis icon Novak Djokovic, his watch runs on these same progressive principles. **PROSPEX FLIGHT COMPUTER.** Solar-powered to be eco-friendly, no battery change is ever needed. Equipped with the apex of aviation technology required by pilots, it also precisely performs for those with the goal to progress above and beyond. SeikoUSA.com

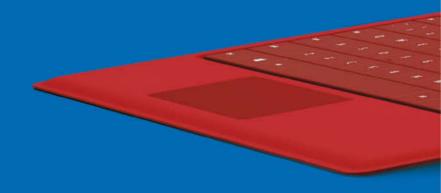
PROGRESS TO SEIKO

AVAILABLE AT MACY'S AND MACYS.COM



## Powerful as a laptop, lighter than Air

The new Surface Pro 3 is a tablet and laptop in one. It's thin and light and runs your favorite desktop programs, like Adobe Photoshop, Office and Windows. Work from anywhere with the built-in adjustable Kickstand, Surface Pen, USB port, 12-inch screen, and an optional click-in keyboard. The Surface Pro 3. The tablet that can replace your laptop.





## M

#### **Vices**

According to the fine folks at the Tobacco Vapor Electronic Cigarette Association, American vaping currently sucks at 6 million members strong and growing every day. If you've inhaled coffin nails for years, you've likely either considered e-cigs or made the switch. Tobacco's nearly seventy murder-y chemicals compel you.

While the jury's out on just how healthy vaping is and if it will get you to quit smoking altogether, at least you're off the hard stuff. Plus, vaping smells markedly less foul, doesn't stain your teeth and nails, never leaves a lingering funk in your Tom Ford suit. And there are 466 brands and 7,700 flavors on the market, which makes your usual lights look mundane.

Only, vaping is gross in its own way. It doesn't matter who you are—pursing your lips around a plastic tube that atomizes nicotine-infused propylene glycol into vapor reads as slightly douché. It's always going to be a facsimile, and a vapist will always feel a bit like a poseur.

Pull it together, though.

You've made the right choice to quit the cigs. And you can drastically lessen the Bobby Bottleservice-ness of it all, so long as you abide by these non-negotiable rules.

#### · Don't Dutch-oven everyone else...

Most people agree that vaping at a concert or in the dimly lit corner of a pub in the dead of winter is acceptable. But it's a tenuous social contract at best. Wherever you are, if someone tells you to take it outside, do. Being That Dude who pulls a sneak puff that's as noisy as a stage whisper warrants a punch in the face. This graceless pedantic turd will protest that "it's just water," which is not true at all. Fuck this guy.

#### · ...Especially not at work

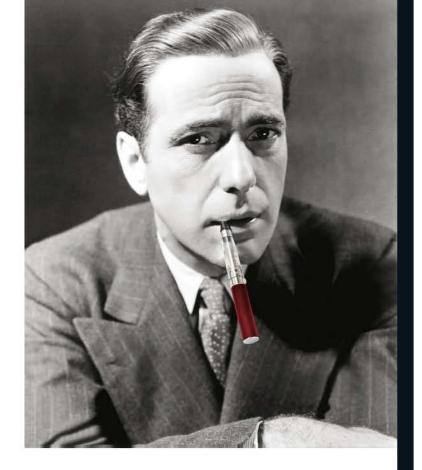
We see you, Reggie.

#### · Do still take a smoke break

Your real-cig buddies will mock you for a few seconds before asking what you think of vaping. Lead them to a better future.

#### • Don't go vape-punk

Of all vaping species, the steampunk hobbyist who denounces store-bought e-cigs in favor of his own DIY contraptions is the most unfortunate. Don't fall prey. One day you're lurking on the VapePorn subreddit, the next you're considering e-juice presentation stands for your mantel



## A Gentleman's Guide to Vaping

E-cigarettes have grown into a billion-dollar industry—which is good, since tobacco kills and all—but it's a smokeless Wild West out there, with men trying (and failing) to sneak a puff in their cubicles, nerds nerding out over souped-up menthol cannons, and worse. To help, Mary H.K. Choi has some very real rules for all the fake smokers to follow

while YouTubing videos on "sub-ohm vaping," which is a real thing you should never, ever know about.

#### Do be extra chill if your vape is for public weed

For some (most?), digital smoking isn't about e-cigs-it's a way to get THC easily and surreptitiously. Toting paper, lighters, and other fragile paraphernalia is so analog. Since most vape pens require a weed-based oil or wax, anyone with a low threshold for hassle should get a looseleaf vaporizer like the innocuous, easily stashed \$250 Ploom Pax. (It's especially ideal for guys on their #dadstrugglesince you and your wife can't roll a jay at home, you can at least enjoy being semifucked-up while watching How to Train Your Dragon 8.) But whatever the legality of marijuana in your state, vaping it requires being cool. It's the "Hamsterdam" of smoking weed in public-the ruse works so long as no one gets too brazen.

#### • Don't run a vape meth lab

It's okay to brew your own beer, and if you're a grown man—not a Kappa Sig freshman—distilling hooch at home is impressive. But it is never acceptable to cook up your own vape juice, butane hash oil, or other cannabis concentrates. You are not Heisenberg, regardless of your millinery choices. Buy what you vape. Like a grown-up.

#### • Don't blow smoke up your own ass

You've made the concession to go faux—great! Don't overcompensate. There's nothing grimmer than a Marlboro man who can't reconcile that a battery-powered tube isn't a real cigarette. Don't lean against the bar wall, cupping your vape pen between thumb and forefinger while scowling. Inhaling like the lead singer of a rock band while a blue LED glows cheerily doesn't make you look badass. But it will keep your lungs from filling with death. So there's that.



#### Check Yo Self

## Is Your Chest Hair an Invasive Species? Six Grooming Mistakes Guys Make

Hitler bristles, chronic cologne stink bombs, nearly nude beards—there's no excuse for any of these screwups, especially when the solutions are so simple



#### **MOJAVE MOUTH**

#### THE PROBLEM

As far as you're concerned, lip balm is just lip gloss with crappier PR. So when it gets cold and dry, your lips start looking like two pieces of beef jerky.

#### THE SOLUTION

You just haven't found the right balm. This **MenScience** Advanced Lip Protection isn't as greasy as gloss. Apply as needed.



#### **CHRONIC FINGER JANK**

#### THE PROBLEM

Symptoms include bitten nails, gross skin-flap hangnails, and cuticles shredded like bad coleslaw.

#### THE SOLUTION

You need to do more than clip (though start here if you're a biter). Give your fingers some TLC with the seven-piece Art of Shaving manicure set and a hand cream. Or just be a man and—seriously—get a real manicure.



#### THE NOSE-PIT PROBLEM

#### THE PROBLEM

You shaved—congratulations!—but you left behind a few stragglers in the hard-to-reach sub-nasal zone, because most razors aren't built for closequarters combat.

#### THE SOLUTION

The **Gillette** Flexball razor has a, yup, flexible ball that pivots the blade to reach most nooks and crannies. Never worry about the accidental Hitler again!



#### THE CHEST-HAIR INVASION

#### THE PROBLEM

You have a toupee's worth of chest hair—which is fine! But when it creeps up and over your shirt collar, you give off a distinctly sleazy Ron Jeremy vibe.



The weeds must be whacked—but not mown completely. You're not Ryan Lochte. A stubble trimmer like this one from **Axe by Philips** will get the job done.



#### THE HALF-NAKED BEARD

#### THE PROBLEM

You shave your beard hair from neck to jawline because you think it looks clean and professional. In reality, it looks like your sideburns went for a joyride around the lower half of your lower face.

#### THE SOLUTION

Shave below your Adam's apple, then use a trimmer on the rest. Feeling fancy? Ask your barber to fade it up to where your neck meets your jaw. (Or try DIY.)



#### THE COLOGNE MUSHROOM CLOUD

#### THE PROBLEM

You like how your cologne smells, so you figure that if some is good, more is better. You also wonder why people take the stairs when they see you in the elevator bank at work.

#### THE SOLUTION

Realize that subtlety is the goal. Start with a single spritz on your wrist, then rub it on both sides of your neck. If the smell wears off too soon, repeat.—SAM SCHUBE







## Out-cleans the 5 big boys.

In independent floorcare tests, the new DC59 Motorhead vacuum out-cleans the top five best-selling full-size vacuums across carpets and hard floors. Without the hassle of a cord.\*

#### dyson

DC59 motorhead

dyson.com/nocord

\*Tested against upright market, dust loaded, using ASTM F608, ASTM F2607, IEC 60312-1 5.2, 5.9. Using competitor NPD sales volume data, MAT June 2014.



To learn more, download the GQ Live app and hover your device over this page.

## M

#### **David Chang's Kitchen**





## Last Call at the Museum of Fancy Dining

Look, I love pork buns and fried chicken as much as the next guy (okay, more), but there's still no better restaurant experience in America than the holy French temples of haute cuisine. Sadly, these places are the last of their kind, and it's partly my fault

After a decade of doing my part to make your dining options spicier, louder, more global, more fun (I hope), and a lot less formal, I'm ready to come out and admit something: I am a closeted classicist, an utter Francophile.

As often as possible lately, I've been eating at places like **Daniel**, **Jean-Georges**, and **Le Bernardin**—the few restaurants left in New York City that celebrate the

things I admire most about gastronomy. Ilove servers dressed like penguins, sommeliers who still use tastevins, and traditional French dishes so difficult to execute they seem imaginary.

One of my great regrets is never eating a meal at **Harveys** under Marco Pierre White, at **Lespinasse** under Gray Kunz, or at the legendary bohemian **Quilted Giraffe.** I'm equally saddened that in all likelihood you have no

idea what or whom I'm talking about.

For me, the allure of those temples of French classicism isn't the food—as great as it was—so much as the dream they cultivated, the dream to do something great. Those chefs created a standard to aspire to and a template to follow—or, in my case, a road to avoid.

When I opened Momofuku in 2004, I knew I didn't have the tools to operate a traditional finedining restaurant. I didn't belong with the best of the French class; I knew this and respected it, and instead tried quietly to open a place that I could run with a modicum of the honor I saw at those restaurants.

Over the past decade, restaurants around the world have similarly tried to untether themselves from any French paradigm. It was good and important work, and restaurants have connected with more

diners as a result. What we have gained is diversity. What's at risk is craftsmanship. We've overcorrected, and now we are in danger of losing all contact with the mother ship.

New York lost Lutèce, La Côte Basque, and Alain Ducasse at the Essex House-all in the past ten years. Seattle lost Rover's. San Francisco lost Fleur de Lys. These losses reflect a shift in the public's taste, yes. But they're more about what's happening in the kitchen, Traditionally, the cream of the cook crop have aimed to kill their mentors and seize control of the fine-dining meccas where they trained. Not anymore. I don't think today's rising chefs have any desire to replace their bosses.

They've got their sights set on opening their own (less ambitious) places: wine bars, ramen shops, meatball or fried-chicken joints.

I'm not saying we need to replace the grandes dames of fine dining with facsimiles. but we do need restaurants that carry on their tradition of striving for the absolute best-Eleven Madison Park and the more casual Dirty French in N.Y.C., for example, and Hibiscus in London. The chefs in these kitchens have the chops to conceive and create modern renditions of classic French cooking, and that's because they trained under the old masters. That's what

made them great. In my mind, I have a clear picture of the future of American dining-a delicious East-West mash-up that steals from Singaporean hawker stands, Taiwanese night markets, and the Tokyo-style highend-dining counter. Imagine sheng jian bao stuffed with Texas barbecue. crepes filled with Peking duck, spicy Korean fried chicken as a pizza topping. Less obvious to me is the future of the old-school French restaurant.

That's why I've been visiting these places: to feast on a standard of dining and service that we just won't see in ten or fifteen years. For me, it's like watching the NBA during the era of Bird, Magic, and Jordan and knowing I should savor every moment, because basketball would never be played on quite the same level again.





#### N 65° 19' 6.7" - W 137° 20' 14"

#### SEVERAL DAYS' WALK FROM ANY TRACE OF MANKIND

Suffused with the pioneering spirit of the far North and the epic journeys of sled dogs across the frozen expanse of the Arctic, the TUDOR Heritage Ranger is the reinterpretation of a classic, a fusion of sophistication with the demands of an untamed environment. The epitome of functionality, its fabric strap, satin-smooth finish and understated dial are just some of the features through which the modern city dweller can glimpse a mythical bygone world. And hear the call of the wild.

#### TUDOR HERITAGE RANGER®

Self-winding mechanical movement, waterproof to 150 m, 41 mm steel case. Visit tudorwatch.com and explore more. TUDOR Watch U.S.A., LLC. New York



## GIFTS FOR HER

GQ Style Ambassador Sabir Peele and Glamour Senior Merchandising Manager, Amy Liang, have teamed up to select the best holiday gifting ideas for the wonderful woman in your life. Let's face it: Finding a gift for your lady can be quite a challenge. Peele will get you inspired with these cool picks from **FOREVER 21** that will keep her looking and feeling great far into 2015.



FOREVER 21°







The 12-Month Body Tune-up



## Your Next Vacation Should Be Your Sweatiest Ever

You spent 2014 getting into shape, so how do you carry that momentum into 2015? Sign up—like, today—for a race next year. And not an electrified mud bath with some tough mudderfuckers, but a competition you'll actually enjoy, held in a city where you can eat, drink, and recuperate like a champ

Without a tangible goal, exercise can start to feel like a grueling, pointless slog. (Abstract concepts like "feeling better" and "living longer" make for poor motivators.) What you need is an organized race, something to stoke your competitive instincts, push your regimen forward, and test just how fit you really are. Seeing that race date on the calendar will keep you honest about working out in dreary-ass winter. And if you plan it right, the big day won't be something to dread—it'll be a launching pad into a vacation.—NICK MARINO

New York City

**Empire** 

of Burn

State

• Once a year, the Empire State Building opens its stairwells for a footrace to the top. Thomas Dold, the German who won seven consecutive races from 2006 to 2012, explains the appeal of running those 1,576 steps. "The Empire State Building is an iconic building, that's the first thing. The second thing is that you have a really, really cool view above New York when you're on the top. And the feeling is completely different from what you get if you take the elevator. Because you look down on the street and you know: 'I have done it by myself. It's just me.' And to get this very exciting feeling, you only have to wait eighty-six floors! The whole way up, you're looking forward to this moment when you get to the finish."

- POST-RACE
  MEAL Dinner at
  Cosme, the first
  U.S. restaurant by
  Mexican superchef
  Enrique Olvera.
- WHERE YOU'RE STAYING The NoMad Hotel, the best bed (and bar) in limping distance from the race site.

# \*The Bay Area hosts two spectacular rages

#### Leave Your Heart (and Lungs) in San Francisco

Northern California »JUNE 7 AND 14 • The Bay Area hosts two spectacular races just one week apart. Completing either is a triumph, but the truly badass can book a full week in Northern California and pull off both. Here's your itinerary.

#### SUNDAY (JUNE 7) Kick things off with

the Escape from Alcatraz triathlon. That's a once-ina-lifetime 1.5-mile swim from The Rock through the Bay, followed by an eighteen-mile bike ride through city parks and an eightmile run through Baker Beach to the grassy finish line of Marina Green. Now check into the waterfront Hotel Vitale and pass out.

#### MONDAY

Crawl to the hotel elevator and press "penthouse." That's where the spa is, and where you'll get the soreness soaked, massaged, and aromatherapied right out of your body.

#### TUESDAY

Time to get moving again. Rent a bike at Bike and Roll and pedal gingerly across the Golden Gate Bridge.

#### WEDNESDAY

Today's really the only day you want a hard workout. Hit the Embarcadero jogging path, which runs from your hotel doorstep along the water to Fisherman's Wharf.

#### THURSDAY

Raid the legendary Ferry Building farmers' market. Then picnic in the Insta-worthy Marin Headlands.

#### **FRIDAY**

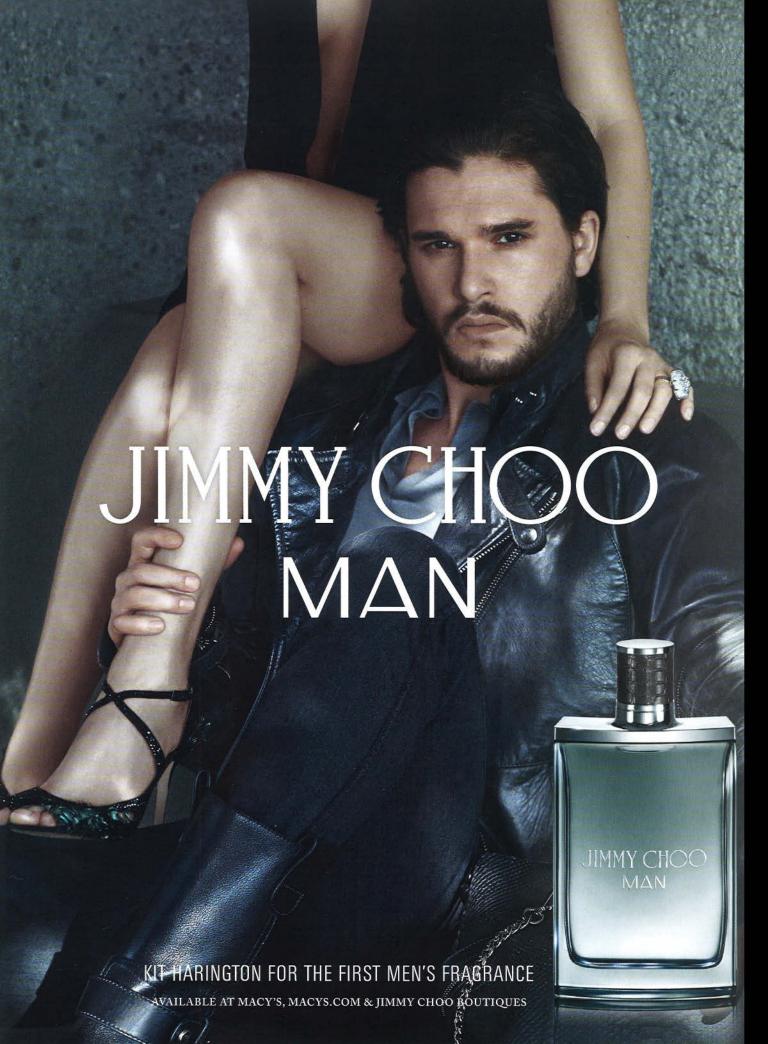
Dinner at Nopa. Think rabbit pappardelle, wood-baked butter beans, grilled broccoli, and olive-oil cake with strawberry ice cream.

#### SATURDAY

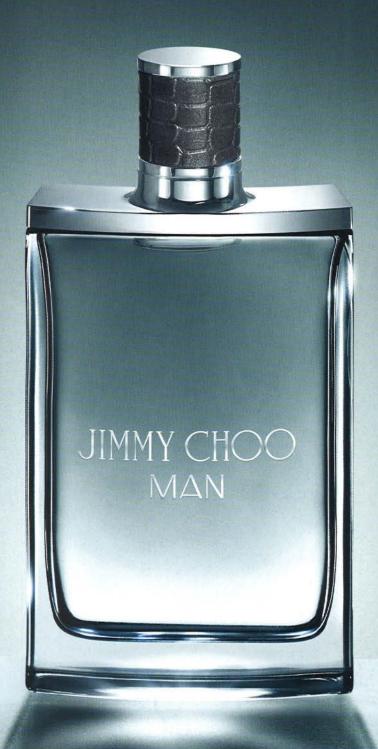
Take it easy. Maybe buy some boots at Unionmade. See a Giants game. The only thing that should elevate your heart rate today is a Hunter Pence home run.

#### SUNDAY (JUNE 14)

Finish with The Dipsea, a 111-year-old trail race that romps 7.5 miles through the woods, ravines, and horse-ranch country of Marin County. The quirky course (shortcuts are allowed!) ends at Stinson Beach. and an unusual agehandicap system means that anyone at any age has a fighting chance of winning. So watch out for Granny in the Reeboks.



# JIMMY CHOO MAN



THE FIRST MEN'S FRAGRANCE

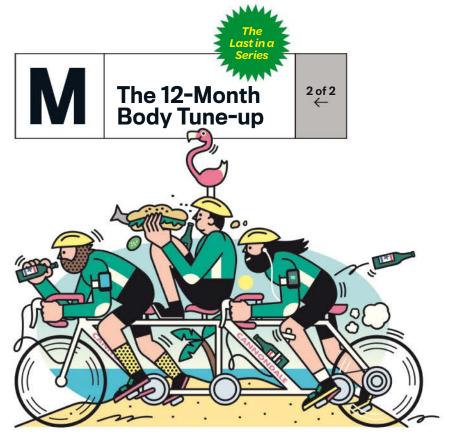
AVAILABLE AT MACY'S, MACYS.COM & JIMMY CHOO BOUTIQUES



## AN **ALL-NEW**, ALL-ABOUT-**GQ**, EXCLUSIVE ONLINE **COMMUNITY**



JOIN NOW ) GQINSIDER.COM



#### A Road Trip on Two Wheels

The Florida Keys
»SEPTEMBER 12

• Don't think of the Key West Cycle Challenge as a bike race. Think of it as a bike jaunt—a postcard-ready tour of one hundred sunkissed miles from Key Largo on down. The whole spirit of the event is mellow: If you're not up for riding the entire century on your own, you can bring

some buddies and do it as a relay. Either way, your course is the Overseas Heritage Trail, a railroad track turned bike path with turquoise water on all sides and a tropical tailwind at your back.

- POST-RACE MEAL Eat dockside at Hogfish Bar and Grill, and order the namesake fish sandwich on Cuban bread. (If you stick around town and go fishing tomorrow, come back and they'll cook your catch for you.)
- WHERE YOU'RE STAYING Casa Marina, a 311-room Key West luxury lodge that dates from 1920, with two oceanfront swimming pools and the island's biggest private beach.

#### Run Like a Bear

Chicago

Pro football

players and lunatic streakers shouldn't be the only ones to frolic on NFL grass. Which is why, every Memorial Day weekend, 15,000 runners (many wearing Ditka mustaches and sweater-vests) line up for the Soldier Field 10 Mile road race. The race starts outside the stadium and heads south along Lake Michigan, an out-and-back course delivering panoramic skyline views. There's only one hill, and it's at the end: the players' tunnel that pours

onto the Bears' landmark field as you sprint to the fifty-yard-line finish. You'll be done before most people have breakfast and ready to move on to the important stuff: hot sausage, the lakeshore, and cold pitchers of midwestern pilsner.—BILL BRADLEY

- POST-RACE MEAL A charred Polish sausage with sport peppers at Wiener's Circle.
- \*WHERE YOU'RE STAYING The new Godfrey Hotel, a Cubist marvel with a 15,000square-foot rooftop.



#### You Really Need to Tri This Place

Traverse City, Michigan »JUNE 13

• The M22 Challenge is a funky triathlon near the top of the Michigan mitten. You run 2.5 miles, starting from Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, then bike seventeen miles around Big and Little Glen lakes. And then, instead of swimming, you kayak or stand-up paddleboard for 2.5 miles on the little lake. Traverse City is blessed with fresh water, clean air, cherries you'll scarf by the pound, and a sky so starry you'll actually recognize some constellations, so rent yourself a lake house and make this your post-race vacation circuit.



#### THE LITTLE FLEET

Thirsty? Try this indoor-outdoor bar. Hungry? Eight food trucks are parked outside.



#### STATE THEATRE

Michael Moore programs this grand old one-screen movie theater on the main drag.

#### THE COOKS' HOUSE The seven-course

tasting menu costs just \$60 and lets you rub elbows with Mario Batali. He summers in TC and loves this place.

#### INTERLOCHEN

Hit this famed arts center for alfresco shows by acts like Willie Nelson.

#### MISSION POINT LIGHTHOUSE

At the end of Old Mission Peninsula, you can tackle miles of scenic hiking trails and crack a bottle of wine on the beach.

Just Do It: Book Your Ticket Now Many of these races sell out months in advance. See one you like? Lock it in today, so you don't get passed on your way to the starting line.





## HUBLOT

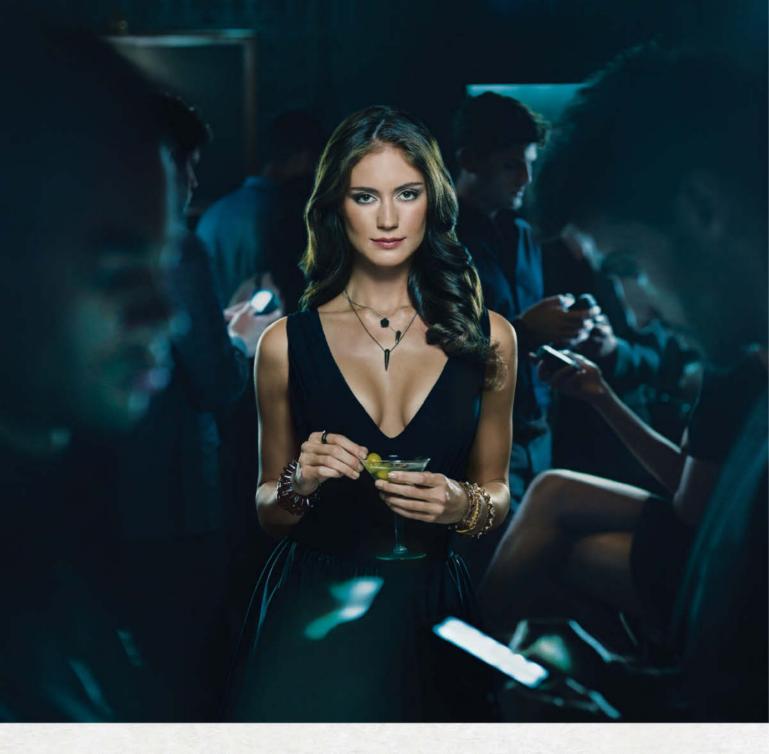
BOUTIQUES

**NEW YORK • BEVERLY HILLS BAL HARBOUR • BOCA RATON** LAS VEGAS • PALM BEACH • ATLANTA DALLAS • ORLANDO • HOUSTON

Tel: 1 800 536 0636



Classic Fusion Dwyane Wade. Tribute to basketball's fashion icon. Self-winding skeleton chronograph movement. Black ceramic case. Limited edition of 250 pieces.



or into her eyes?



LIFE'S FAST. SIP SLOWLY."







#### Forget It, Joaquin—It's Doobietown by Tom Carson

→ People have been wondering forever how to make a movie about the Decade to End All Decades that doesn't reek, and in Inherent Vice, Paul Thomas Anderson's solution is to leave most of "the '60s" out. Based on Thomas Pynchon's novel about a stoner detective on the trail of, well, everything and nothing that paved paradise after the '60's went pfft, the film exiles Vietnam, black rage, even rock 'n' roll, like they're classroom cutups.

His one exception, appropriately enough, does reek: dope. Pynchon's Doc Sportello (Joaquin Phoenix) does most of his investigating—well, at least when he

remembers toin a haze of weed. Back when he and his ex Shasta (Katherine . Waterston) were together, getting high was their favorite pastime, and the movie's one truly lyrical flashback has them chasing a new pot connection. Now she's involved with a real estate tycoon who-like Śhasta herselfgoes missing, leaving Doc stumbling through a slew of Bad Stuff involving his LAPD nemesis "Bigfoot" Bjornsen (Josh Brolin), brainy massage-parlor chicks who operate like the stoner CIA, and a junkie-naïf sax player (Owen Wilson) who may or may not be dead.

Except for Wilson's Coy Harlingen, Anderson doesn't waste much pity on anybody. Instead, he stands back as we watch the people we think we're rooting for let the Blue Meanies win while they're busy getting high. His disdain for reviving the era's utopian clichés can remind you, for better or worse, that those clichés are also the key to its charisma. But We blew it"the key line in both Easy Rider and The Flectric Kool-Aid Acid Test-is the counterculture's oldest lament for a reason. Inherent Vice isn't a mystery story so much as a coroner's report on a suicide.



#### The Trippiest Prop Artist of the Year

→ If you had nightmares about True Detective's freaky-ass torture shack, antler murals, or bone-like tunnels, you were admiring the work of fine artist Joshua Walsh. We asked Walsh about his one hundred-plus (terrifying) creations.
—SARAH BALL

You built death labyrinth Carcosawhat was the hardest part?



Fort Macomb had eight rooms that were just humongous to fill, but because of the historic value, we weren't allowed to use nails. Plus, we had to get a permit from the state of Louisiana to pick up 3,000 pieces of driftwood.

What's the weirdest thing you sourced? For the Yellow King altar [above left], I called up the art department and said, "Uh, can somebody get me a cow's heart?"



#### Could they?

Yeah! I stuck it in a dehydrator, and it was crazy how it all dried out. I put it inside the altar, because the point is, this guy's nuts, right? I did not want it to look like Pirates of the Caribbean.

I think you're safe. [Director] Cary [Fukunaga] was so emphatic about the hanging sculptures being realistic, he had me throw them in the trees myself. So no chairs or ladders.

Just like the killer.

#### Math of the Year: Silicon Valley's Finale Dick Joke

The genius of Mike Judge's Emmynominated equationcan 800 nerds be jerked off in ten minutes?—is that it is 100 percent mathematically real.





ABBI JACOBSON and ILANA GLAZER blazed through 2014. As in, they got high a lot on their Comedy Central hit show, Broad City. We invited them to lunch—specifically, fancy weed-infused box lunches from sinsemil.la, a 420-friendly supper club. And over THC delicacies, here's what they had to say.—JEN ORTIZ



### 'BROAD CITY' PREMIERES ON COMEDY CENTRAL.

IG: That was the best moment in television and cinematic history. I fuckin' love our show.

AJ: But, like, what did we do? Where were we, at my house?

IG: Dunno!



#### JUSTIN BIEBER ARRESTED FOR DUI.

IG: Until he kills someone or abuses a child, he'll smile in every mug shot. I'm kind of into him as a gross-fuck. It's embarrassing.

AJ: No, I could totally see that as a gross-fuck. [pause] Wait, does this food have weed in it?!



#### 'HOUSE OF CARDS' PREMIERES— KATE MARA'S ZOE BARNES DIES ALMOST

INSTANTLY.

AJ: [does the Kevin Spacey knock] I do that all the time. And with Zoe, that's how you know a cool show! When, if you walk out of the room for a fucking second, you miss a huge game changer.



SHIA LABEOUF WEARS A PAPER BAG AT 'NYMPHOMANIAC' PREMIERE.

IG: The world is sad.

AJ: Oh, to be in the hotel room where he was like, "I want to write this on a paper bag." And other people in the room were probably like, "DO IT, MAN!"

**JANUARY** 

FEBRUARY



→ If you noticed that 2014's crop of pop culture smelled like CK One, wet flannel, and Fruit by the Foot, you weren't having a stroke. This year was littered with your long-lost '90s girlfriends. And yeah, they've missed you, too.—LINDY WEST



#### IS THAT...

LIV TYLER? On... The Leftovers? Yep! We know you're being chased by a cult, Liv, but we're sure you can pole-dance your way out of it.





**NEVE CAMPBELL?** On... Mad Men? Yep! She flew coach with Draper, but if she comes back, there'd better be girl-on-girl swimming.





TARA REID? In... Sharknado 2? Yep! Reid told us in August that a sharknado can really happen. We hope she got paid extra for her shark science.





**COURTNEY LOVE?** On... Sons of Anarchy? Yep! (Anarchy, model's own.)



MONICA LEWINSKY? On... National Geographic Channel? Yep! Later, she held forth on privacy and those cell-phone nudes. Monica 4 Prez.





#### The Year's Coolest. Weediest **Record Label**

→ Burger Records, America's best underground record label, is not just a label—it's a burgeoning empire. Built on the teenage dreams of suburban SoCal anti-bros Sean Bohrman and Lee Rickard, Burger is behind a hundred cassette releases of scuzzy surfiangle. raw punk, and bubbleaum bomp. The label pushes its



colored agenda through festivals, a YouTube channel, and a strip-mall record store down the road from Disneyland. Here's a starter guide to getting on the Burger bandwagon. -JESSICA HOPPER

#### Burger is really into merch.

Retro jumbo-size buttons proclaim fan allegiance and cheeky slogans—"l'm a Burger Bud" backed with a portrait of nugs. Tote bags feature pseudomascot Burger Boy—an underfed, dope-smoking, skateboarding Mayor McCheese.

#### Burger has killer cassettes.

The Lemons' Hello, We're the Lemons! is fourteen songs in as many minutes, and "Ice Cream Shop" is the hookiest twentyeight-second song you've ever heard. Or try stoner-pop guru Erik Gage/ Free Weed's Bong Pop. Unsurprisingly, the lo-fi single is titled "Marijuana." Very relaxing.

#### And cool videos.

Between Two Buns: The Burger Records Story is their behind-thescenes doc, and they also have BRGRTV-weekly episodes showing smoky band footage.

#### So go see a show.

Burger Oasis is a weekend-long poolside fest at the Ace in Palm Springs, and the label has several annual micro-festivals across the country.



#### THE OSCARS TURN 86.

IG: The red carpet makes celebrities into babies. It's like a baby pageant. "Show me your manicure! "Wȟat size are you wearing?" "How are you feeling???"



#### SETH ROGEN LISTS **EVERYONE HE** GETS HIGH WITH.

AJ: I've smoked weed with one famous person on this list. But she wouldn't remember it.

IG: Just say it!

AJ: Sarah Silverman. But she's gonna be like, "Who?

IG: No, she knows



#### **TMZ TEACHES US THAT DONALD**

RACIST. IG: Donald Sterling is a weird old piece of shit. I'm glad he was an example of old white dudes who are dvina and losing power.

STERLING IS

AJ: That's a funny sketch! People wearing mikes to catch old white dudes saying shit?

#### RIHANNA'S TOPLESS 'LUI' COVER DROPS.

IG: She has gorgeous tits. She's like a Caribbean bad bitch on this cover-she gives me a fear boner. Sometimes I think would Rihanna do? Probably not be filmed taking a shit on her TV show. So she empowers me.



#### KIMYE WED.

IG: Yaasss! We talk about the Kardashians like they are our family friends. I fucking love them. I love Kanve the most. He's like us—he's like a dorky improv kid, just in hip-hop. Also, Kanye was right. Who cares about Taylor Swift videos, unless they're offensive to people of color? >>

us now!

**APRIL** 

'GAME OF

THRONES'

RETURNS.

because, like,

AJ: I love that show,

anyone could die.

MAY

MARCH







# The entertainment that moved us in 2014 is on Google Play

Explore the emotions stirred by the year's best music, movies, TV, books, magazines, apps and games





















the victories that fill us with triumph

the magic that inspires us to

dream

the tenderness that lets us

melt

the journeys that lead us to

escape

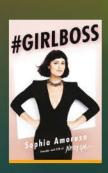






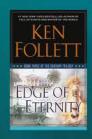










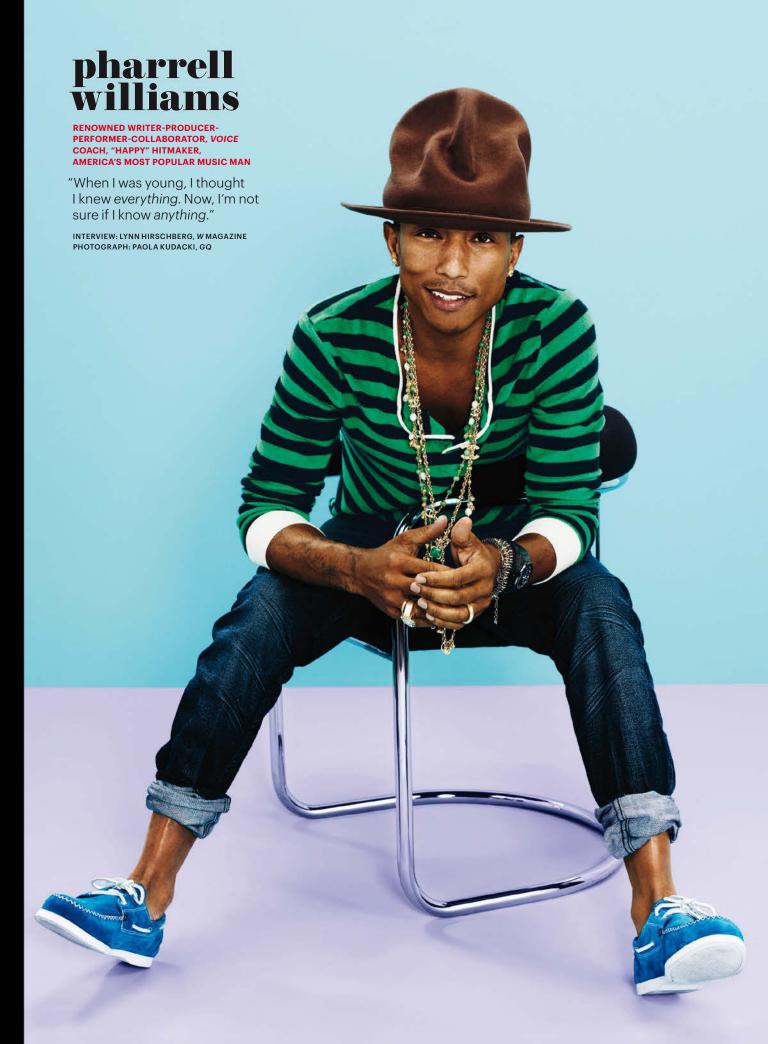




### THE BEST PERFORMANCES OF THE YEAR BY THE BEST PERFORMERS OF OUR TIME

With stunning photography and compelling profiles drawn from the pages of Condé Nast's most iconic brands—Vogue, Vanity Fair, The New Yorker, GQ, Wired, and more—this special edition brings together the biggest names in movies, music, television, books, and theater in one sparkling collection of A-list stars. Celebrate the breakthroughs and the bold reinventions, the established masters and the new icons, the spot-on trends and the don't-miss cultural moments—on stage, screen, and page—of 2014.





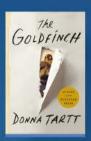




## CONDÉ NAST A-LIST

Available on newsstands everywhere

December 9

















the forces of energy that electrify

the antics that trigger a giggle

the flames that ignite our

lust

the darkness that makes us

tremble

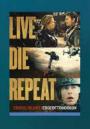




















# Google play

Get inspired by the best entertainment of the year at g.co/play2014



#### G Q I N T E L L I G E N C E + T H E P U N C H L I S T

#### The New Best Buds of Late Night

Remember when there were entire books about late-night acrimony? We don't, either. As of 2014, it's all peace and love, man. (From left, Colbert, Corden, Fallon, Meyers, Wilmore, and Oliver.)



Famous-Dude **Annual Report:** Thicke vs. Thicke

→ How the stock of Robin Thicke and Alan Thicke performed over the year.

Receives Canadian achievement certificate

Separated,

releases Paula.

of Blurred Lines.

Sells fraction

A. THICKE

R. THICKE

His "reality sitcom Unusually Thicke, has Stamos Gretzky, Saget cameos

No growing pains here renewed for season two

Sponsors 1-800-Flowers theme bouquets.

Reportedly throws "divorce party" with DiCaprio.

Carnage of the Year: How I Got My Head Squished on Game of **Thrones** 

BY PEDRO PASCAL, AS TOLD TO JEN ORTIZ → I had a cast done of my entire face with an expression of excruciating pain. My teeth, too—that was the first thing that gave me a pit in my stomach. The eye squishing was done with tubes inside The Mountain's costume. And the day was warm, so I actually fell asleep. All I had to do was lie there, because I was fucking dead.



O



What We Learned from Thomas Piketty (While Stoned)



→ Capital in the Twenty-first Century, the 700-page doorstop from French economist Thomas Piketty, was the year's gotta-read. Or at least the year's gotta-pretend-toread, so we gave it a crack while high.

—LAUREN BANŠ

6:00 p.m. Smoke

joint rolled with the title page, for flair. **6:01 p.m.** Cough a lot. Maybe book paper has weird chemicals? 7:00 p.m. Open Capital. 7:06 p.m. Page 4. Take out phone to oogle "agronomist."

7:20 p.m. Page 4

again. Read words

"legislative body." Start laughing. Say "Hey, do you like my legislative body?" to boyfriend. Laugh harder. 7:21 p.m. Quick lovemaking inspired by body jokes. 8:06 p.m. Reopen book. Page 8. 8:08 p.m. Teeny puff of pot, just to make completely sure I'm doing this assignment right. 8:15 p.m. Page 15. Laugh at economist name "Simon Kuznets." Say, "Hey, do you think 'Kuznets' is Belarusian for CUZ NUTS'?" 8:16 p.m. Realize

pages 9 through 14. **9:45? p.m.** Fall asleep on couch. 7:00 a.m. Panic. Read last page. **7:01 a.m.** SPOILER ALERT! The takeaway of this book: "[Á]II citizens should take a serious interest in money."

I somehow skipped















#### DAVE CHAPPELLE **RETURNS TO** STAND-UP.

IG: Monumental. He's an icon. A straight-up icon. [See page 232.]

AJ: It was awesome to see him back performing comedy.

#### **ROBIN THICKE'S** ALBUM 'PAULA' TANKS.

IG: He used to make dope-ass music, Robin Thicke. Like, you would hear his voice and be like, "Damn, it's like butter, bitch!" Now he's the Gerard Butler of music. Fingerplugging a stranger. I'm just like, "Take some time off."

#### 'DATING NAKED' **PREMIERES ON** VH1.

IG: Good concept, but aren't you just watching blurs?!

AJ: Sounds like where reality TV is going.

#### **'GUARDIANS OF** THE GALAXY' **EXPLODES IN** THEATERS.

IG: Love Chris Pratt. Strawberry blond. Woof! Also he has, like, eight abs. And his wife likes him better chunky.

AJ: Aww. [See page 210.]

#### BEYONCÉ **PERFORMS AT** THE MTV VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS.

IG: Beyoncé truly is...flawless. It is ho-larious seeing her juxtaposed with, like, humans. It's like, "Nice try, you idiots."

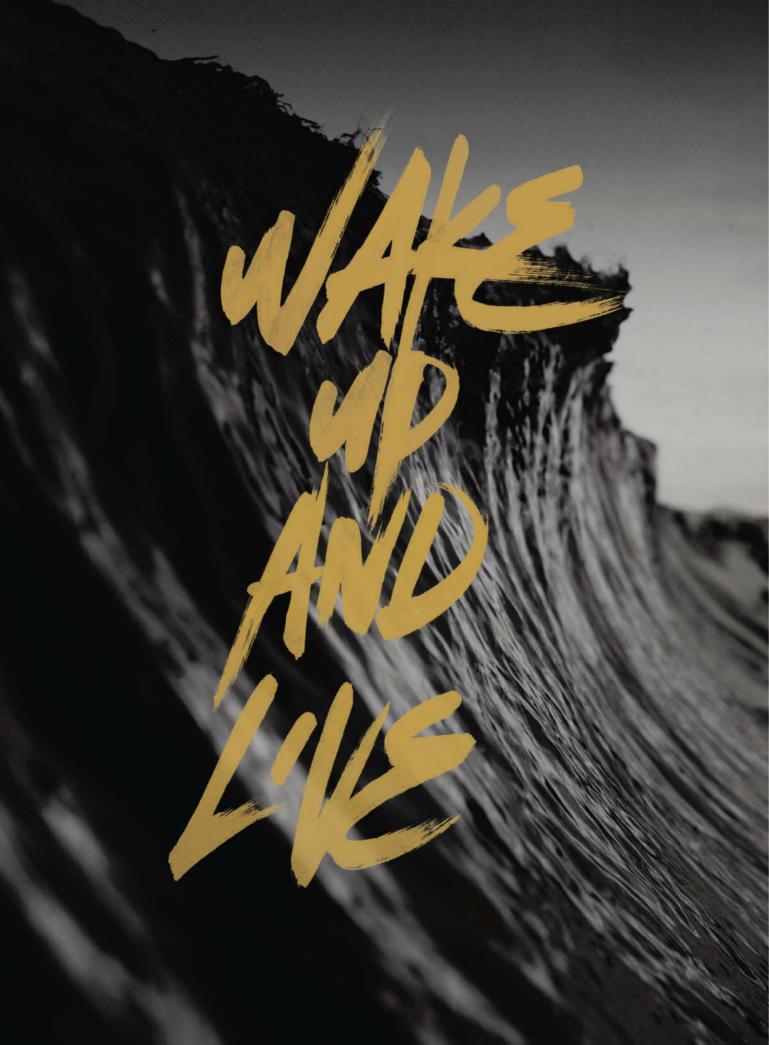
#### COMEDYDOM **LOSES TWO ICONS: ROBIN** WILLIAMS, THEN JOAN RIVERS.

**IG:** Two people whose pain you could see through their work, even when it was at its Williams was

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST



#### ALIVE IN CALIFORNIA



THE DIPLOMAT



nixon.com

#### 2014: The Year of the Real Estate Humblebrag

→ No one was safe from the Ice Bucket Challenge this summer. Not even the rich and famous. who were surprisingly willing to drench themselves in freezing water in the name of charity. Maybe because they didn't have to cut short their August vacations to do it. In fact, it was the perfect opportunity for them to show off their Mediterranean summer homes and 400-foot supervachts. Here are five celebrities who definitely had a better summer than you. -FREDDIE CAMPION

#### Tom Ford

Locale: Atop a stool with what looks like the rolling hills of his Santa Fe ranch behind him. Points

for somehow finding a leather (?) ice bucket.

#### **Oprah Winfrey**

Locale: On a bench in a huge public park. Or wait—is that her Ibiza vacation villa?

#### **Bill Gates**

Locale: A dock at his 66,000-square-foot mansion. Were the fifteen other private docks jealous?

#### LeBron James Locale: Yachting through crystal blue waters off Greece.

#### Leonardo DiCaprio

Locale: Lakeside, 'learning about the Canadian tar sands." And thus the eco-crusademeets-vacationhumblebrag hybrid was born.

#### G Q I N T E L L I G E N C E + T H E P U N C H L I S T

#### **Best Supporting** Object of 2014: Guyliner or Elevators?

→ Holy Grand Budapest Hotel, what's with all the plot twists happening in elevators? Or all the leading men in their Maybe It's Maybelline shiners? Time for a leitmotif-off.

#### GUYLINER



Raccoon-eyed rocker Jared Leto wins Oscar or pageant-painted role.



Justin Theroux is wearing eyeliner in The Leftovers.



Neil Patrick Harris + Ziggy Stardust glitter pen = Tony for Hedwig and the Angry Inch.



Actual guyline spokesmodel Pete Wentz, back on the Billboard charts.

#### **ELEVATORS**



Mad Men, TV's leading elevator-symbolism its farewell tour.



Secret Service chief Julia Pierson forced elevator ride.



The Beygency holds a highly publicized family meeting.



Japan dreams up a 60.000-mile-high e elevator. From Earth. To space

#### The Five Oscars We'd Give Out



BY PHILLORD AND CHRISTOPHER MILLER Directors, 22 Jump Street and The Lego Movie

→ And since you asked, Andy Samberg and Seth Meyers would host.

#### **Best Inspirational** Sports Film: Whiplash

Miles Teller emerges as the Doug Flutie of jazz drummers.

#### Funniest Murder: (tie) Edge of Tomorrow and Dawn of the Planet of the Apes

Emily Blunt straight up murders Tom Cruise in the face; Koba, the villain ape, pretends to be a dumb circus chimp, then coolly kills two guys.

#### Best Lip-Sync: The Skeleton Twins It's the song from Mannequin. C'mon.

#### **Best Awkward** Moment: Boyhood Where Ethan Hawke pulls the car over until

his kids talk to him. At last, Divorced Dad as a more nuanced role than 'Sorry | Missed Your Recital" Dad.

#### **Best Performance** in Crazy Hair and Makeup: (three-way tie) Tilda Swinton, Snowpiercer; Tilda Swinton, The **Grand Budapest** Hotel; Tilda Swinton, Only Lovers Left Alive Cage match!

#### Shill of the Year: The "Dick Graze" Is the **New Handshake**



Just a friendly brobrush on the groin! Maybe the Graze didn't catch on, but this viral rap plugging the Blu-ray release of '22 Jump Street' has Channing Tatum's best-ever stank face.

**AMANDA BYNES** 

for the rest of us!

RETURNS.

#### THAT 'SAVED BY THE BELL' LIFETIME MOVIE.

IG: Being at a party-whatever. IG: As embarrassing as the Brittany Murphy But when you're getting charged with Lifetime movie. reckless driving This is just douche and maybe throwing chilling, basically. bongs out of high-Mr. Belding? rises—it's dangerous

AJ: That name, dude!

#### **'SONS OF** ANARCHY' ENDS.

AJ: Some crazy shit happens on that show, where I'm like, "What? How are any of you alive?

#### AMAZON'S 'TRANSPARENT' DRAWS RAVES.

AJ: Huge fan of Jill Soloway, who created the show and wrote for Six Feet Under. That show is a reason why I wanted to write

IG: Additionally, Jeffrey Tambor. Jesus. Christ.

#### 'GONE GIRL' OPENS.

IG: We just wanted to say Ben Affleck's hot, right?

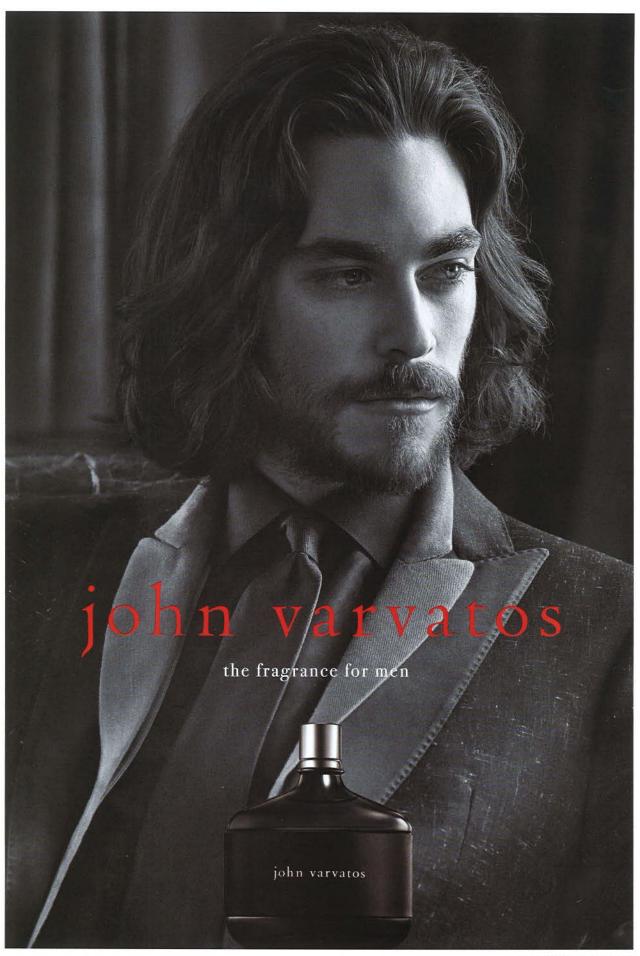
AJ: Even though I know he has, like, things.

IG: Like, hair plugs? Yeah, but I'm still down. Veru down.

#### **NICKI MINAJ** RELEASES THE PINKPRINT.

IG: Dope girl stripping shit down. As reflected in her music in addition to her...image.

**OCTOBER NOVEMBER** 



ohn varvatos

the fragrance for men

john varvatos

john varvatos

VINTAGE

Lift here to experience John Varvatos

# REPORT

#### ADVERTISING | EVENTS | PROMOTIONS



#### Fashion Care Designed to Fit Your Life

The result of a collaboration between P&G and Whirlpool, the Swash™ System dewrinkles, refreshes scent, restores fit lost after wear, and preserves clothing in just ten minutes. This nextgeneration device leaves clothes with that just-out-of-the-dryer, warm and comfortable feeling after every use—giving them the right touch of care that allows for more wear between dry cleanings.

Restore your holidays: swash.com



#### Get GQ's Exclusive Holiday Hosting Box

In *GQ*'s first-ever **Quarterly Box** we included a mix of products to keep you and your home smelling fresh around the clock. Our second box is all about boosting your holiday hosting confidence. We've included everything you need for a successful get-together, no matter where you host, with #**GQQ02**.

Visit quarterly.co to find out more and subscribe today.



#### John Varvatos the Fragrance for Men

Exuding craftsmanship and a rock 'n' roll sensibility, the John Varvatos
Fragrance Collection offers a line of signature scents that complement a modern, sophisticated lifestyle. Crisp and inviting, the John Varvatos scent is woody, masculine, and infused with a refined intrigue. Its subtle power conveys the attention to detail so clearly present in every John Varvatos creation and makes it a must-have to complete any classic look.

Available at Bloomingdale's and bloomingdales.com.









CONNECT WITH GQ.

PRINT. MOBILE. SOCIAL. ONLINE. TABLET.

Instagram and the Camera logos are trademarks of Instagram, LLC in the United States and elsewhere. © 2014 Google Inc. All rights reserved. Google+" social service is a trademark of Google Inc.



#### A Weekender to Remember

Hook + Albert separates the men from the gentlemen with accessories that demand attention, like the Garment Weekender, which is available now. Use promo code ownit2 at checkout, and every bag you order will have a surprise tucked inside.

#### hookandalbert.com

\*Ends Jan 15, 2015. While supplies last.



#### Get GQ on Your iPad®

Subscribe to the tablet edition, available on the App Store<sup>SM</sup>.

gq.com/go/apps



Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. IFad® is a trademark of Apple Inc.





#### Comedy Breakout of the Year: Nathan for You's Nathan Fielder

If you're familiar with the highly hilarious (and more hilarious when high) Comedy Central reality show Nathan for You, in which host Nathan Fielder acts as a socially awkward consultant to struggling small businesses, you know that Fielder is a king of the ludicrousbut-maube-genius business idea. (Dumb Starbucks!) We hit him up for his best one -LAUREN BANS

#### What's the best business idea you've ever had?

I wanted to make a premium raisin that was perfectly smooth, one that had no wrinkles. It

wasn't a grape—it was still dehydrated, but it was just wrinkle-free, so it had more raisin inside. We tried to develop it, but it proved impossible. [pause] Do you think GQ readers want to know what I'm wearing?

#### An Old Navy polo shirt!

What year? Uh, 2007.

#### Vintage. What else?

Underwear from Fruit of the Loom The socks are also from Old Navy. It's morning, so I haven't put on pants yet. GQ should start its own clothing line, don't you think?

#### Are you pulling a Nathan for You on us?

You already have the name—I just thought, 'I should dress in a GQ suit," and then I was like, "What does that mean? GQ is not a clothing company.

#### That's an interesting idea.

I am trying to be more stylish. If famous companies want to send me free clothes, can't promise I'll wear them, but I might. But I do want the option to re-sell them. This is very exciting, you know.

#### What is?

Being in GQ's Men of the Year! If someone came up to the 13-year-old Nathan and said, "One day you're gonna be in GQ's Men of the Year issue," I would have said, "I know!"



#### The Year in (Deserved) Misandry

→ Ah, 2014! Possibly our most misandrist year on recordand also the year that men most earned lady-hate (except for all the other years). The NFL sat on that Ray Rice case for approximately eleventy billion years, Jennifer . Lawrence's camera roll became Reddit's personal porn library, and Texas made it pretty much impossible to get one's vagina looked

at by a doctor. (Penis care still going strong!) Women got revenge, though: Some of us made fun of dudes on the Internet. Lots of men were sexually rejected at bars (and only one of them went on a Santa Barbara shooting spree, so, women win again). And a few gals even tried to critique the video-game industry. So, yeah, gender parity achieved! Sigh.—LINDY WEST

#### The Year **Two Stoners** Attacked Kim Jong-un



→ Veep's Randall Park is so funny, Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg handpicked only him to play North Korea's Kim Jong-un in The Interview. So we asked:

#### How do you prep for a dictatorial debut?

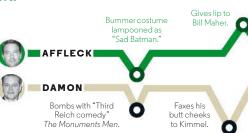
'At first I was like. ...l didn't know I was that fat.' So I gained as much weight as possible. Doughnuts are great for that. I also watched tapes of him with Dennis Rodman—you can see a glimpse of who he is. He's in awe.

Gone Girl-

victory lap?

#### Famous-Dude **Annual Report:** Affleck vs. **Damon**

→ How the stock of Matt Damon and Ben Affleck performed over the year.



Announces he's Bourne again.

O



#### 'FOXCATCHER' **TURNS STEVE** CARELL CREEPY.

AJ: One of my favorite actors.

IG: Is he getting [See page 238.]

#### AJ: Not in this movie.

IG: I'm like, "Waitare you hot?!"

AJ: He just needs a little stubble.

#### 'THE INTERVIEW' OPENS.

IG: Gay dudes looooooove Seth Rogen. He's like the young bear icon. They want to get up in there. Oris it that they want to aet upped into?



pin Kim Jong-un (Randall Park, top right) wore in the movie, then sent to us. Most glorious gift, Leader!

### · This is the lapel

→ An idiosyncratic list that reflects only its compiler's interests and literary wanderingsbut I finished each of these feeling richer and grateful.

BY DAVID MITCHELL

Author, The Bone

Clocks

**Mv Five** 

of the Year

#### The Book of Strange **New Things Favorite Books** by Michel Faber

The story of an extraplanetary chaplain leaving a bruised Earth. Don't let that extra-planetary word put you off.

#### Bending Adversity: Japan and the Art of Survival by David Pilling

A fresh and wise history and political anatomy of Japan from the 1980s on. No other recent book on Japan comes close.

#### Bark by Lorrie Moore

I've only recently "discovered" this supernaturally gifted writer-my God,

she's good. Each story is a miniature master class.

#### Stuff Matters: Exploring the Marvelous Materials That Shape Our Man-Made World by Mark Miodownik

You won't see tin, or anything else in your home, in quite the same way.

#### The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World\* by Lincoln Paine

Paine's a lyrical stylist, and the breadth of his historical vision is extraordinary.

\*Fine, late 2013—close enough.

#### **NOVEMBER**

**DECEMBER** 

#### **BANG & OLUFSEN**

### EVERYONE DESERVES THE BANG & OLUFSEN EXPERIENCE



At Bang & Olufsen, we strive to enhance your living space by seamlessly integrating your systems and your home. All our products belong to a proud legacy of design and engineering. A statement of timeless excellence that ensures that each new generation is as compatible with the past, as it is the future.

### 5 YEAR WARRANTY

PURCHASE TODAY AND GET A 5 YEAR WARRANTY ON ALL PRODUCTS ABOVE \$2,700.\*

\*Offer applies until 12/31/2014



# Rookie of the Year



THERE'S SOMETHING charmingly Vulcan about NBA commissioner Adam Silver. Not his ears, necessarily, but just about everything else: his rational demeanor, the cool logic of his dialogue, and the glints of humor that surface at unexpected moments. "This is my one chance at being interviewed by *GQ*," he says late in our conversation. "When are you going to ask me about my clothes?"

Silver has been the institutional face of basketball for less than a year. His brief tenure has not been quiet: Three months into the job, he banned Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling for life after Sterling was surreptitiously recorded making racist comments to his girlfriend. High-profile

The NBA's most impressive floor general is a six-foot-three Duke graduate who hasn't played competitive hoops in decades. He is ADAM SILVER, the first-year commissioner whose decisive performance thus far has made his veteran counterpart in the NFL look even more inept by comparison.

Come to think of it, Commish, what would you have done in Goodell's shoes...?

OOMING: SUSAN DONOGHUE AT ENNIS INC. "BASKETBALL" SYMBOL BY ARTHUR SHLAIN, FROM THE NOUN PROJECT COLLE(



WE ALL KNOW
SOMEONE THIS YEAR
WHO ACHIEVED
SOMETHING
EXTRAORDINARY.



SIP RESPONSIBLY.

greygoose.com

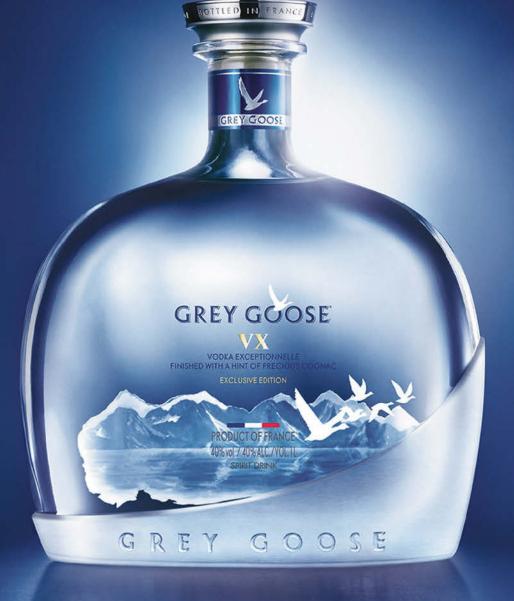




INTRODUCING GREY GOOSE® VX

THE WORLD'S BEST TASTING VODKA MASTERFULLY
FINISHED WITH A HINT OF PRECIOUS COGNAC.





SIP RESPONSIBLY. greygoose.com

# REPORT

#### ADVERTISING | EVENTS | PROMOTIONS



#### The Gold Standard

We don't compromise style for comfort. And we recognize a good thing when we see it. We honor the classics and seek out old-school craftsmanship in all things modern. Flashy isn't our thing, but handsewn leathers, soft lambskin linings, and 18k-gold-plated eyelets? Definitely. We call it The Gold Cup Collection. You'll call it understated luxury.

sperrytopsider.com/goldcup



#### Montblanc Legend

Montblanc Legend is a masculine and iconic fragrance for a charismatic and contemporary man. Fresh, aromatic, and lively, Legend is a modern and timeless scent perfect for day or night.

Available at Macy's and macys.com.





SEPTEMBER 2014 | MONTAUK

#### TUDOR and GQ Dinner Party

TUDOR and GQ hosted an evening by the beach to celebrate the launch of TUDOR Heritage timepieces and surf style with guest of honor, John Moore, cofounder of M.Nii and a 2014 Best New Menswear Designer in America. Cocktail hour and dinner were held at The Crow's Nest in Montauk, New York, where guests enjoyed drinks and a three-course meal. Party favors included a Jack Spade for TUDOR tote bag and an Invitational Stripe Tee from M.Nii's fall 2014 collection.

tudorwatch.com #TUDORwatch



#### Plated: Eat Better, Live Better

Our \*Back2Business winner, Nick Taranto, is the cofounder of Plated, an NYC-based start-up that delivers fresh, ready-to-cook meal kits to your door. With preportioned ingredients and chefdesigned recipes, you can (re)discover the art and fun of cooking. Plated sources seasonal produce and premium cuts of meat so that you can eat and live better.

> Receive four free meals with your first order when you visit plated.com/gq

> > Offer ends 12/17/14



#### Made to Layer

When temperatures drop and the weather becomes bleak, it's time to enlist that extra cozy layer. From printed knits to updated outerwear, Forever 21 Men has got you covered for the winter season with gotta-have staples your wallet will love. Shop them all in-store and online now!

forever21.com



• A protester outside Staples Center on the day Silver banned Donald Sterling for life.

player movement dominated the off-season, most notably LeBron James's return to Cleveland. And now Silver and the NBA have inked a new deal with ESPN and Turner Broadcasting worth \$24 billion. In terms of money and talent, the league has never been more robust. Not coincidentally, this wiry 52-year-old former lawyer is suddenly viewed as the best commissioner in American sports. But that status is never secure, and this is not a job for a man who needs to be loved.

I'm not going to ask you a hundred questions about [NFL commissioner] Roger Goodell's handling of the Ray Rice scandal, because I realize you're not in a position to comment on someone else's problem. But I do want to ask you one: If placed in a position to advise Goodell, what would your advice be?

If Roger was to come to me—and he hasn't—my advice would remain confidential.

And I'm not comfortable talking about what I would tell another league. We've had our share of issues, and—even before I was commissioner—I appreciated that other leagues didn't feel a need to pile on when we were having problems.

I'm certainly not pushing you to pile on. But when you see this happening to another commissioner, you must imagine yourself in that position.

That I do. I think about that all the time. But that's different than offering advice to the NFL. That's the NBA offering advice to itself. What can we learn from how this was handled? If we have a player arrested for domestic violence, how will we handle it pre-adjudication, when it's still an allegation? How do we balance the player's due process against the public clamoring for instant justice? There is a lot that can be learned here.

Does the NBA's racial inversion—the fact that the league is around 77 percent black, while American society is roughly

13 percent black—inevitably complicate every issue you face?

I don't try to put it aside. I try to deal with reality on its own terms. To act as if our league wasn't 77 percent African-American—or to ignore the predominantly white-male ownership—those variables become factors in what we do.

#### Give me an example of an issue that becomes more complicated because of that reality.

I'm not sure it *complicates* it, necessarily. Sometimes it simplifies things. In other industries, they might have to weigh these issues differently. Going back to Donald Sterling, here was a situation where nearly 80 percent of his employees were African-American. The fan base was also heavily African-American. So in that case, the racial component actually clarified my response.

But that raises a different issue: Let's assume that Donald Sterling had made the same kind of offensive comments, but not about African-Americans. What if he'd made similarly offensive comments, but not about race? I'm not sure if it ultimately would have led to a different outcome. But here again, I'm just trying to deal with reality: Race is the third rail in this country, in my view. And while we may have ultimately done the same thing, prejudicial statements against other minority groups may not have the same media outcry, or the same reactions from sponsors, or the same reactions from fans. I'd like to think we'd protect those other groups as much as any other group. But the outcome also might have been different if you didn't have the president of the union, Chris Paul, playing for that team. Or if you didn't have someone as thoughtful as Doc Rivers as the coach.

G Q I N T E L L I G E N C E + S P O R T S

Or if you didn't have social media sharing that audio 10 million times in the first twenty-four hours.

What if Sterling had made those comments about Asian-Americans? Asians represent less than 1 percent of the league's players. Would that prompt you to consider the problem differently? I think I would not be being honest if I said that if the comments had been directed toward another minority group in society, the response would have been the same. Again, it's hard to deal in those kinds of hypotheticals. But in this situation, there is no doubt that the racial composition of our league and the historical track record of the NBA were things we considered.

Your handling of the Sterling problem was almost universally supported. But I'm curious: How much discomfort did you have with the idea of stripping an owner of his franchise for having problematic social views? Were you worried about the precedent this decision would set? Thinking about it now, I am less concerned—precedentially—with the fact that an owner can be removed for his beliefs. I am more concerned with it from a privacy standpoint. I am mindful that this began as a private conversation between Mr. Sterling and a girlfriend. In some ways, this case was made easy for us, because that private conversation—completely unrelated to any act by the NBA-was made public and widely distributed. So from the NBA's perspective, I was dealing with a public statement. But that is something I've thought about quite

"We're all entitled to our private thoughts, and even an occasional misstep or misstatement should not be career-ending."

a bit. This did not originate as a business conversation. It was not intended for public distribution. And in fairness to everyone in the NBA, we have to consider the appropriate lines. We're all entitled to our private thoughts, and even an occasional misstep or misstatement should not be career-ending.

Let's say the recording of Sterling and his girlfriend had been brought directly to the league office and was never

disseminated to the public. The lack of attention would obviously not alter his internal belief system. How would that have impacted the response? You're essentially saying that his private statements matter more because someone else made them public. That's a very good question. We still would have acted on it, even if it had not gone public. But it would have been a different circumstance. Again, in the case of Donald Sterling, we had the potential for immediate damage to our business. I was acting to protect the best interest of our business, in addition to doing what we believed to be right.

If you could instantly change anything about the NBA, without having to negotiate the terms or compromise your position, what change would you make? I would have a harder salary cap. I still think it's unhealthy for the league when a team like Brooklyn goes out and pays an exorbitant luxury tax in order to give themselves a better chance to win. From a league-office standpoint, the ideal league would be for all thirty teams to compete based on the skill of their management and players, as opposed to one team paying more to get better talent. So creating a more even system would be at the top of my list. And I'll give you one more:

I think it would benefit the league to raise the minimum age from 19 to 20.

### Why can't you do that now? If it's possible to dictate that players can't sign until they're 19, why is making that age 20 any more complicated?

The reason we can't unilaterally do it is because it must be collectively bargained. We bargained with the union many years ago in order to move it from 18 to 19. Going to 20 was on the table during the last bargaining cycle [in 2011], but it was an issue we parked, having already lost several weeks of the season [due to the lockout], and we were anxious to get the season going. But it's something I hope to address in the near future.

# What is the union's principal argument against raising the age limit? It seems like it would be good for everyone—the NBA, the college game, the physical development of the players.

Their principal argument is that it's a restriction on players. And as a philosophical argument, I totally understand that. Of course it's a restriction, in the same way a draft is a restriction. But our view is that it would make for a better league. You'd have more skilled players, more mature players. The draft would be better. It would be better for basketball in general. Strong college basketball is great for the NBA. And we know those players are eventually going to come to the NBA, whether they are 19 or 20 or 21.

# Marijuana is legal in Colorado. A player from the Denver Nuggets can legally smoke weed but would be penalized by the NBA for doing so. What will you do if these drug laws continue to erode, state by state?

It doesn't force us to change our policy. Plenty of employers have rules against employees drinking, which is perfectly legal. This is a policy matter, and it's our strong preference that our players do not consume marijuana. We believe it will affect their performance on the court. That said, marijuana testing is something that's collectively bargained with the players' association, and we adjust to the times. But we're much more concerned about HGH testing and designer performance-enhancing drugs. Among our many priorities going forward, marijuana is not at the top of our list.

CHUCK KLOSTERMAN is the author of eight books, most recently I Wear the Black Hat: Grappling with Villains (Real and Imagined).

### Protester of the Year: **Edward Crawford**

In the famous picture from the Ferguson protests, he hurls a fiery can of tear gas into the night sky, as if he were the perfect activist for our age: a patriot with a flag for a shirt, a raging Everyman with a bag of chips. But the guy in the year's most iconic image wasn't trying for iconic at all.



• The first-time protester was arrested and released without charges.

began marching, pushing us back, telling us to return to our homes. When they shot the tear gas into the crowd, well, the canister landed a few feet from me. My only thought was to get it out of there. I didn't know what it was, but

I saw sparks coming out of the top. It looked like a bottle of fire. You could hear the gas, though. You could hear it seeping out. When I grabbed it, it wasn't hot. And I just threw it. I didn't see any photographers, but the next day, my sister sent me

the picture.
I was like, "Wow, somebody caught that moment?!"
Looking at it, I didn't know if it was a good thing or a bad thing. It was dramatic. It all happened in just a second. So that's why I'm holding the chips, a bag of Red Hot Riplets I got from a guy in

the crowd. I didn't know him from a can of paint—he just gave me the bag. And the shirt? That's just my favorite shirt; I wear it a lot. I didn't even think about it. I mean, I really wasn't expecting to have my picture taken.—AS TOLD TO GEOFFREY GAGNON

168 GQ.COM DECEMBER 2014

# Influential People

of 2014

G Q I N T E L L I G E N C E + L O S E R S

Another year, another round of people who took up vast clouds of oxygen, gave us back nothing of use, and probably helped accelerate the death of our planet. Here they are, in no particular order, although you'll probably assume we ranked them anyway, because most of you probably skipped this part DREW MAGARY

> Note: Obama, Woody, and Goodell are all presented here in comically exaggerated proportions. But not Bono. He really looks like that.







#### 1. Bono and U2

→ The Tom Friedman of rock and the rest of his band collaborated with Apple to strong-arm their new album into your iTunes library without your consent. You couldn't even delete it! Apple had to send out specific instructions for how to wipe Songs of Innocence (God, that title) off your computer. The worst part was the way both Apple and U2 treated this, like it was some kind of noble gift to The People; in fact this was a \$100 million marketing campaign. Yes, \$100 million to turn U2's socially conscious dad-rock into a piece of direct mail.

#### 2. Barack Obama

→ Why are you still on Martha's Vineyard?! Missouri is BURNING. Putin is conquering Europe. The CDC is playing nude Twister with Ebola patients. U2 is forcing bad songs on everyone. The NSA won't stop watching me masturbate. I need you ON THIS. Are you even president anymore? When Obama got blasted for golfing shortly after ISIS beheaded journalist James Foley, he said, "I should've anticipated the optics." How do you win the presidency without knowing that golfing makes you look rich and indifferent?

#### 3. Donald Sterling

→ The racist/slumlord/pervert/nudist ex-NBA owner displayed a remarkable lack of power in 2014. He failed to keep his girlfriend from recording him saying a bunch of horrible shit about black people. He failed to keep the NBA from taking over his Los Angeles Clippers. He failed to keep his wife from selling the Clippers to that bald guy from Microsoft. He failed at every attempt to sue his way back into ownership. He failed to win even a shred of our sympathy in a hilariously misguided interview with Anderson Cooper. And the best part is that it all caught him completely off guard. You mean I'm not allowed to be a rich bastard who gets away with everything anymore? That's not fair!

#### 4. Carter Bays and Craig Thomas

→ These were the men in charge of the *How I Met Your Mother* finale. SPOILER ALERT: In a surprise twist, the mom turns out to be dead. Dead! You labored through all those years of Neil Patrick Harris screaming out jokes about his dick, just to meet a corpse. It's a *sitcom*. Why does it even NEED a twist? It's not as if *Cheers* ended with all the characters turning out to be ghosts.

#### 5. Zach Braff

→ Can we all agree never to crowd-fund a movie again? Please? Who are these people who gave Zach Braff \$3 million to make a *Garden State* do-over? Who has that kind of money to burn? Even though Braff is rich, he took the money, and just as he promised he would, he made yet another mope-piece that ached to be taken seriously as art. He should've just filmed himself rubbing that money on his armpits.

#### 6. Roger Goodell

→ He's made liking football feel gross and wrong. He should be fired for *that*.

#### 7. Stephen A. Smith

→ He went on ESPN and ranted about how Ray Rice's fiancée may have egged him into knocking her out ("Let's make sure we don't do anything to provoke wrong actions"), then tried to explain himself on Twitter and said something even dumber ("What about addressing women on how they can help prevent the obvious wrong being done upon them?"). Did he get fired for it? Of course not! How can ESPN fire SAS for being an idiot when they hired him specifically to be an idiot?

#### 8. Dwyane Wade

→ LeBron can talk all he wants about righting past wrongs, coming home, etc.... We all know the real reason he left Miami is because the once great Wade can't guard a column of marching ants at this point. His knees are the only things in America right now that are rusting faster than Cleveland.

#### 9. CNN

→ They're still looking for that fucking plane! Is it in the ocean? Did it travel to another dimension? WAS IT A ZOMBIE PLANE?! We need to put the folks at CNN out of their misery. I can get better news standing at a goddamn bus stop.

#### 10. Eric Cantor

→ "Campaign in my local primary? But I'm already in Congress! People love Congress! I think I've done enough to earn the loyalty of the great people of Virgini... OOPS!"

#### 11. Derek Jeter

→ 4 HR, 50 RBI, .256 BA, 87 strikeouts, 11 errors.

#### 12. Jay Nixon

→ He's the governor of Missouri. Did you know that? Pretty sure the people of Ferguson don't. They think their governor is a very large tank.

#### 13. Rick Perry

→ Is he really gonna run for president again? Hasn't he heard himself talk? Doesn't he know he's under indictment? He should be able to see all that with his new "smart feller" glasses.

#### METAL TWISTED G-SHOCK

### G-SHOCK



www.gshock.com/mtg

MTGS1000D-1A

MTGS1000BD-1A



SHOCK RES

VIBRATION RESISTANCE SHOCK RESISTANCE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE RESISTANCE

#### METAL TWISTED G-SHOCK

A fusion of resin and metal encompassed in a case that has our trademark shock resistance with extraordinary elegance results in the perfect combination of our technologies and impeccable craftsmanship.

# TOURNEAU

THE WATCH AUTHORITY

tourneau.com 800.348.3332



#### 14. Benny Johnson

→ Think about how hard it is to plagiarize when you're a writer for BuzzFeed. How do you plagiarize shit for a post called "10 Ways America Is Still Number One"? Is it really so hard to think of reasons why we're number one? Food trucks. There ya go.

#### 15. The Brazilian soccer team

→ Seven to one! Holy shit, that is a *churra-scaria* of ass-kicking. How do you lose that badly when you've got a player named Hulk? HE'S THE HULK! I guess they've got the Eric Bana Hulk and not the Mark Ruffalo Hulk. And this is a country that requires winning soccer games in order for their crops to photosynthesize.

#### 16. Johnny Depp

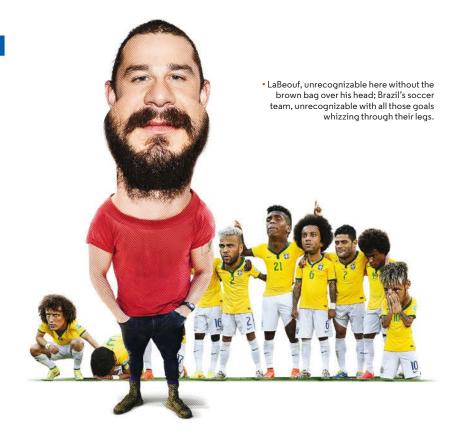
→ Here's a crazy idea: What if Johnny Depp played an actual human being—one who could plausibly exist in real life? Not a dude living inside the Singularity. Not a rock-star pirate. Not a surrealist take on Hunter S. Thompson. An actual person. Can he even do that? Or is Johnny Depp just some kind of advanced mascaradroid prototype?

#### 17. Cliven Bundy

→ Listen to the infamous Nevada cattle rancher on the subject of race: "I want to tell you one more thing I know about the Negro.... There is always at least a half a dozen people sitting on the porch.... And because they were basically on government subsidy, so now what do they do? They abort their young children, they put their young men in jail, because they never learned how to pick cotton." It's funny that Bundy can say this while failing to mention that he would like free use of federal lands, in perpetuity, for his cattle to graze. The only difference between him and a welfare queen is that Bundy could point a gun at a federal officer and get away with it.

#### 18. Suey Park

→ "Twitter activist" (we can probably stop right there) who began a "movement" to cancel Stephen Colbert's talk show (#CancelColbert) because Colbert made a joke about Asian stereotypes that was actually a joke about Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder. Two weeks later, Colbert was chosen to replace Dave Letterman. I want to be the target of Twitter activism. Maybe I'll wind up in bed with Pippa Middleton.



#### 19. Tom Wheeler

→ The FCC chairman is actively facilitating the demise of net neutrality by permitting a "fast lane" for web access. Note that this plan sorta glosses over the "slow lane" part. It will also enable ISPs to charge more for (probably) worse service. Did I mention that Wheeler is a former lobbyist for cable companies? WHAT A SURPRISE.

#### 20. Chris Christie

→ Would it shock you to learn that the investigation Chris Christie commissioned into investigating Chris Christie (for Bridgegate) ended up exonerating Chris Christie? Maybe Tom Wheeler was in charge of it.

#### 21. Shia LaBeouf

→ I know it's weird to put him on this list, given that he wrote *King Lear*, directed *The Godfather*, and was briefly the U.S. poet laureate. But I'm telling you, there's something off about this LaBeouf fella—like he isn't everything he claims to be.... By the way, enough with celebrities excusing their asinine behavior—like, say, wearing paper bags over their heads—by claiming they were conducting some kind of sociological experiment about HUMANITY.

#### 22. John McCain

→ No matter what foreign-policy stance the president takes, you can be certain that ol' Johnny Boy will be there to call him a pussy—for either (*a*) not bombing people or (*b*) not bombing them enough. McCain

requires ALL of the bombing. If we don't keep bombing everyone, then the mad dictators will think we look weak! And if we've learned anything, it's that when mad dictators think you're tough, they'll say sorry, dismantle all their anthrax guns, and buy everyone a box of kittens.

#### 23. Woody Allen

→ Thankfully, you didn't have to feel gross for liking a Woody Allen movie this year, because he made *Magic in the Moonlight* and no one saw it. Does that movie feature yet another man wooing a woman who is half his age? Of course it does. Just to throw us off, Woody needs to make a movie where Justin Bieber nails Cloris Leachman.

#### 24. The Secret Service

→ "Welcome to the White House! Come right in! Would you care for a knife? Oh, you already have one! Marvelous. Private elevator rides with Obama are every hour on the hour, if you're interested."

#### 25. Robin Thicke

→ Reportedly cheated on his wife. Wrote an album *named after her* to get her back. Literally titled the first single "Get Her Back." Sold just 530 copies of the (shitty) album in the UK in its first week. Still getting divorced. The rest of this cheeseball's career is our collective punishment for making "Blurred Lines" popular. Let's ALL get a divorce from this man.

DREW MAGARY is a GQ correspondent and a staff writer for Deadspin.





SURPRISE SEXIEST SCENE OF THE YEAR

### ALEXANDRA DADDARIO

We live in an age of complete access to pornography at all times. An age of Gorillaglassed portals, in each of our pockets, to German grannies dot-com. And yet what set the nation on fire last January? A topless scene starring a woman who wasn't even really famous. At least not until that moment.

### GQ: Did things change right away?

**Daddario:** The next day my manager called and said, "My phone is ringing off the hook." I booked a pretty big movie [San Andreas] directly after that. It was crazy.

Are you worried Seth MacFarlane is gonna sing about you? What was that song? "We Saw Your Boobs." I thought it was funny.

But is it unfair there's no equivalent for men? One day a woman will host the Oscars and sing, We saw your penis, we saw your penis, we saw your penis.

### Tragically Forgotten True Detective Subplot of the Year

The Other Lady Woody Harrelson Has an Affair with, Lili Simmons

• We can't remember what Lili Simmons's character had to do with the Yellow King—or frankly even if she got with Young Bewigged Woody or Older Bald Woody— but let's just say T-Mobile flip-phone sales spiked. Too bad she got overshadowed and outWoodied by Daddario.



THE TV DEATH SPECTRUM\*

TV **BEDROOM MOVE OF** THEYEAR Keri Russell 108

• THERE'S A LOT to love about *The Americans*, like great performances, Reagan-era fashion, and, you know, televised simultaneous oral sex. Even more groundbreaking: Keri Russell and Matthew Rhys's TV daughter walks in on the 69.

→ When Kate Mara's Zoe Barnes was killed off, we wondered: Was this the most expedient on-air lady death of the year?



True Blood SEASON 7 EP#1

Who: Tara How: Meets the "True Death."



House of Cards SEASON 2 EP#1

Who: Zoe Barnes How: Pushed onto tracks of the Metro.



Game of Thrones SEASON 4 EP#7

Who: Aunt Lysa How: Shoved through Moon Door.



The Leftovers SEASON 1 EP#8

Who: Patti Levin **How:** Shard of glass to own throat.



Orange Is the New Black SEASON 2 EP#13

Who: Vee (maybe?) How: Close encounter with van.



### Have We Reached **Peak Butt?**

It could be argued that every year is a good year for butts. But some years, like 2014, really do seem to be better at putting the bottoms on top. @jenselter became an Internet phenomenon, mostly for shots of her glutes (#belfies!), like the one above. SI Swimsuit did a rare butts-forward cover. Plus, Nicki Minaj (cheeky), Iggy Azalea (zoinks), and the return of J.Lo are enough to make us wonder if the butt economy is maybe a little overheated. In 2015, will the butt bubble pop?

### PR GIRLS OF THE YEAR

It was also a good year for men dressing as women on TV. Even better than 1980. (Bosom Buddies!) Sure, Jeffrey Tambor may win an Emmy for Transparent, but Nick Kroll (and reallady Jenny Slate) wins LAUGHS for Kroll Show's fake PR reality series "PubLIZity." In their own words:

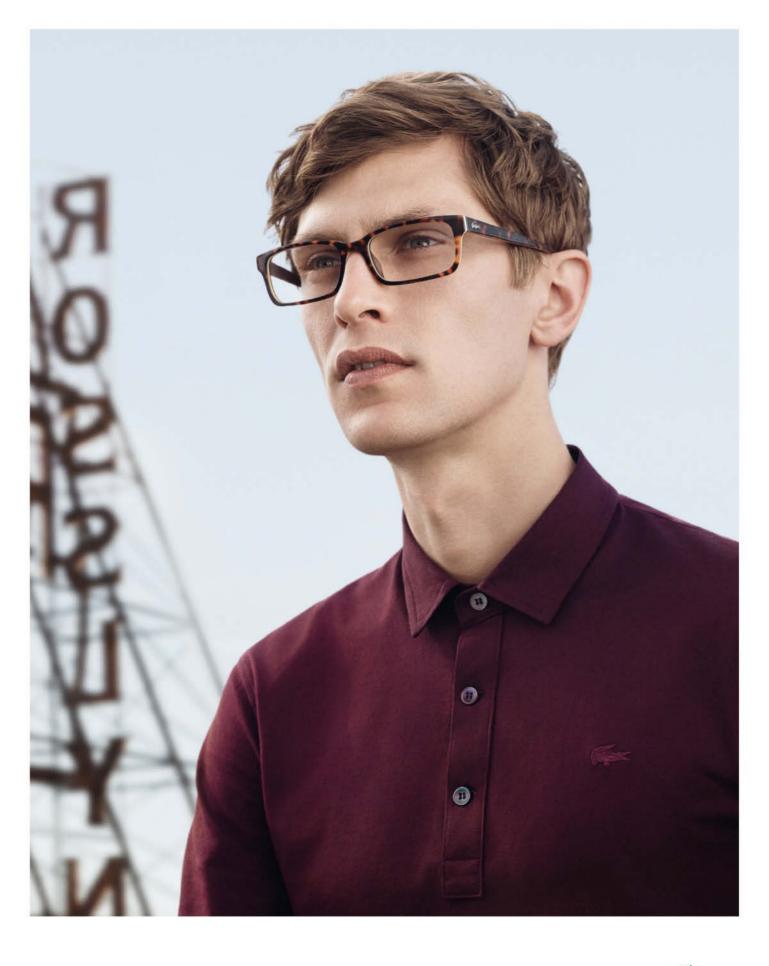
"I'm Liz. I'm an ameezing **person** with an ameezing life."

> "And I'm Liz. I'm a college graduate, and I expect the best."



\*Spoilers have likely already been spoiled, because the pictures are larger than the text.





### MAN-EATER OF THE YEAR

• In Under the Skin, Scarlett Johansson was the sexiest, scariest alien ever. Here's her guide to eating men (at least that's what it looked like) in three easy steps.



1. Sweetly offer ride to pedestrian.



2. Drive pedestrian to suspiciously decrepit building; start stripping.



**3. Lure pedestrian** (w/ ALMOST NAKED BODY) to pool of death sludge where his innards will be harvested and leftover skin-sack will remain forever(?).

Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Martin When they allegedly got together, they got the best nickname ever: Martin Lawrence.

Oh no! Not in Big Momma's house!



WIDOW **OFTHE** 



• THERE WAS LITTLE QUESTION heading into the past season of Game of Thrones that Natalie Dormer's Margaery Tyrell would indeed marry the melty-faced brat-king Joffrey and become queen of the Seven Kingdoms. (For those unfamiliar with the show: Yes, that sounds ridiculous, and no, we can't explain.) Of course, Joffrey was POISONED at the wedding, melting his melty face further and leaving Margaery kingless and kinda-but not completely-in charge. So she did the only thing a faux-grieving widow could: cuddled up next to her dearly departed's young brother and won his heart and hand by stroking his cat. No euphemism. What kind of show do you think this is?

Token Woman of the Year The lone leading lady in Silicon Valley, Amanda Crew, has advice



DON'T: Flirt with social media.

"When we were at a premiere for Silicon Valley (in the real Silicon Valley), a lot of the people there were like, 'Well, you should follow me on Twitter! Are you on Instagram?' They were talking about social-media accounts, like, 'Follow back?!' And that made me really uncomfortable.

GQINTELLIGENCE+WOTY

**DO: Flirt with computers if you are a "Genius."** I had to call the Apple help line, and we were talking for a bit—I never said my name, but obviously they have that informationand when we got off the phone, I got a message from the Apple tech adviser that said, 'Say hi to Pied Piper for me.' I was like, Awesome! I love that he didn't say it on the phone but e-mailed it through the Apple tech thing."





### THE YEAR THE SUPERMODELS OF **INSTAGRAM BECAME SUPER-FAMOUS**

Terrifyingly good-looking women like these used to be known only to fashion insiders and the freelance artist hired to do 'Sports Illustrated' paint-on bikinis. But thanks to Instagram, we're now as familiar with this generation's models as we are with its actresses. Meet—and follow—six of our favorites.



**TEIGEN** 

Follow if you like:

### **Anthony Bourdain**

Typical geotag:

### Her kitchen

Cameos: John Legend

### Followers:

1.1 million



**SWANEPOEL** 

Follow if you like:

### Old McConaughey

Typical geotag:

### **Ipanema**

Cameos: Other VS Angels

### Followers:

3.8 million



Jourdan DUNN

Follow if you like:

### Tupac

Typical geotag:

### Same as Rihanna

Cameos:

Followers:

0.9 million



I'm ready to hunt

### Beautiful Belgian World Cup fan spotted on TV.

BBWCF signed to modeling contract.

BBWCF posts that she's ready to "hunt Americans" before Belgium-USA game. Contract rescinded.

### Mom of the Year:

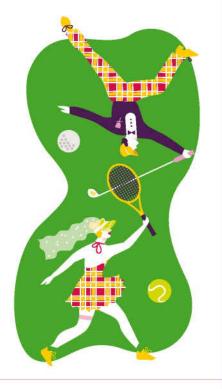
Patricia Arquette In Boyhoodfamously shot over twelve years ages gracefully and momwardly.



"Wow, it's so fun to work with Richard Linklater."



"Oh, my God, I'm still working with



### Breakup of the Year: Rory McIlroy and Caroline Wozniacki

• SO TOTALLY EXCELLENT golfer Rory McIlroy and totally excellent tennis player Caroline Wozniacki, longtime megawatt couple, mailed out a stack of wedding invitations in May, only to break up within the week. Sad! But what's important is what happened post-split: Both athletes started playing out of their minds. Rory won two of the year's four majors and vaulted himself to a number one world ranking. And Caroline—after Serena took her for a post-breakup weekend-started playing arguably the best tennis of her career. Everybody wins. Trophy after trophy.



Karlie **KLOSS** 

Follow if you like:

### A bro who bakes Typical geotag:

### The big game

Cameos: Amar'e

### Followers:

1.3 million



**JENNER** 

Follow if you like: **Chuck Bass** 

### Typical geotag: Coachella

Cameos.

### Kim

Followers:

14.6 million



**DELEVINGNE** 

Follow if you like: **Bart Simpson** 

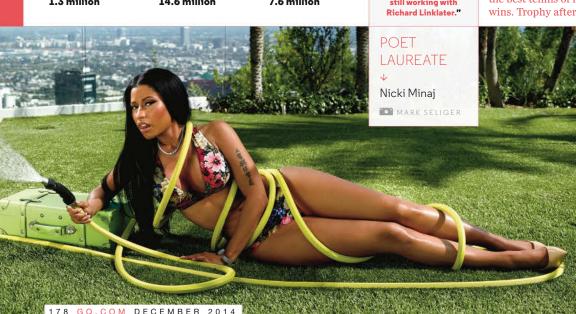
### Typical geotag:

Sick party Cameos:

### Other models

Followers:

7.6 million



### LYRICAL EXCERPT: "Anaconda" (2014)

This dude named Michael used to ride Dick bigger than a tower, I ain't talking about Eiffel's Real country-ass nigga, let me play with his rifle Pussy put his ass to sleep, now he calling me NyQuil Now that bang, bang, bang, Llet him hit it 'cause he slang cocaine He toss my salad like his name Romaine And when we done. I make him buy me Balmain

### Bachelor to Groom.

Switch to GEICO and you could save... maybe even enough to help you afford that new diamond ring.

As members of the Berkshire Hathaway family of companies, Helzberg Diamonds® and GEICO are committed to serving our customers with expertise, dedication and care.

geico.com | 1-800-947-AUTO | local office





"Helzberg Diamond Masterpiece. Nice choice, mate!"







### Killer (of Weddings!)

In Gone Girl. Rosamund Pike's Enigmatic Amy isn't so much a three-dimensional woman as the most chilling kind of cutout cipher. Look upon her and face all your deathly fears of marriage reflected back. That her campy disembodied v.o. reminds us of one of those lady assassins from Kill Bill only brings the threat of murder-by-wife home harder.



### Fans of the Year: The Beyhive

• IF YOU'VE NEVER been stung by the Bevhive-Bevoncé's swarm of devotees-count yourself lucky. It's an experience of shame and misery with a dash of life-threatening danger. An offcolor joke I tweeted about a potential Jay Z and *écnoyeB* album elicited a call to arms from a hive leader: hundreds of replies, dozens of veiled threats, and teenage girls threatening to beat my ass.

Why don't other famous folks have fans like this? How about an Obamahive? Or better yet, Mr. President, just work with what's already out there: Put the most readily assembled transnational army to work. Trouble with bad guys radicalizing and recruiting via Twitter? Have your speechwriters compose tweets from ISIS about how Katy Perry is better than the Queen Bee. Problem solved.—@FIVEFIFTHS

### INEVITABLE OSCAR LADIES OF THE YEAR

Julianne Moore (Still Alice)



Nominated for: Making early-onset Alzheimer's look worse than cancer.

Oscar clip: "Goddamn it, why won't you take me seriously?! I feel like my brain is fucking dying!

Inadvertent sexiness: Tom Ford reading

May lose because: Tilda Swinton. May win because: Academy hates Alzheimer's.

Reese Witherspoon (Wild)



Nominated for: Hiking, bleeding, shooting up, getting tattoo from Everclear's Art Alexakis, appearing in 98 percent of the film's frames.

Oscar clip: "Fuck you, bitch!" while throwing boot down the side of a mountain.

Inadvertent sexiness: Post-shower assessment of hiking scars/rashes. May lose because: Extensive interaction with

GI fox (/reincarnated mother). May win because: Academy loves California.

### **COLOR OF THE YEAR: CHASTAIN RED**

→ This fall, a chance to test out four shades of Jessica Chastain



### Hannah Storm KOs Roger Goodell

The ESPN anchor took on the NFL during the Ray Rice scandal

What exactly does zero tolerance mean to the NFL?... Will the NFL, in all its power, take the lead on the issue of domestic violence?... Shouldn't those who support the league demand the same? To see action?... As we all wait on the answer to the central question: What exactly does the NFL stand for?









© 2014 Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC. Samsung, Galaxy Note, Galaxy Tab, Samsung Level and S Pen are all trademarks of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. Appearance of device may vary. Device screen image simulated.

SAMSUNG



PROMOTION

### BROOKLYN, NY NEW YEAR'S EVE

ELICN JOHN & HIS BAND

DECEMBER 31 9PM



ride the rocket ellonjohn.com



It's not hard to make a list of things that could easily have derailed Zach Galifianakis's world-changing "Between Two Ferns" interview with President Obama. The entire premise, for starters. (A deliberately idiotic Galifianakis grills

It was one of the most hilarious (and important!) moments of the year:

Zach Galifianakis interviewing President
Obama about...the Affordable Care Act.
And it vaulted FUNNY OR DIE—the world's greatest comedy site, brought to you by Will Ferrell and friends—to previously unimaginable heights of viral-video dominance. AMY WALLACE embeds in the site's Hollywood HQ, witnesses the funniest offices in America, and discovers that the FOD revolution is just getting started

### BY MOVING SIDE TO SIDE SHAVING HAS FINALLY MOVED FORWARD







### FUSION PROGLIDE REBUILT WITH NEW FLEXBALL TECHNOLOGY.

A razor that responds to every contour of your face for maximum contact\* and gets virtually every hair.



 Team FOD: from left, Andrew Steele, Dick Glover, Chris Henchy, Adam McKay, Mike Farah, and we don't know who that bearded guy is.

the faux-irritated president about Obamacare.) Or getting the commander in chief, no matter how game, to spontaneously morph into the comedian in chief. Or even calming the nerves of the host, a sweet and gentle man who finds it uncomfortable enough to be fake-mean to the actors and pop stars who appear on his show, let alone to the leader of the free world.

None of that turned out to be a problem. What did become a hassle were the Boston ferns themselves. Because when you place the president of the United States between two ferns, those ferns had better look presidential (or at least as perky and robust as the ones on, say, the Justin Bieber episode). Distressingly, such ferns were nowhere to be found.

"Oh, that was a drama," recalls Rachel Goldenberg, a Funny or Die producer and one of a six-member team that flew to Washington in late February to shoot the video. The FOD crew called florist after florist, she says, but the only ferns they could locate were puny, fake, or both. "We were open to the fake ones," she says, "but it just wasn't the right look." Finally, some camera-ready plants were located at a nursery about forty-five minutes away. A gofer was dispatched; disaster was averted. And it was all worth it, Goldenberg says, when Obama strode into the Diplomatic room, where they were shooting, and flashed his comedic chops.

"Before, we were all like, 'Well, this could go either way.' But then he really was hilarious," Goldenberg says. "We had just two takes, and he nailed it."

On March 11, when the video debuted on FOD, traffic on Healthcare.gov spiked 40 percent, according to the White House—a clear demonstration of FOD's connection to the uninsured millennials the administration was so desperate to reach. "We are proud that over 24 million Americans have watched the president and Zach inform the country about the benefits of the Affordable Care Act between those two iconic ferns," says White House senior adviser Valerie Jarrett.

Adam McKay, the writer and director (Anchorman, Talladega Nights) who founded FOD in 2007 with Will Ferrell and Chris Henchy, was even prouder: "I told the guys, 'That video probably saved 2,000 lives! When does that ever happen?' And the greatest compliment of all was that I actually laughed. It didn't come off like some sweaty policy piece. It was a historic moment. If you look back at the past hundred years in comedy, there's that Colbert White House Correspondents' dinner in front of Bush and the Nixon 'Sock it to me.' There's the first time we saw Albert Brooks's Real Life and Charlie Chaplin in The Great Dictator. I would put that Obama piece on that list. And Will and I had nothing to do with it. That was the coolest thing. Out of nowhere, to go get the frickin' president and then do a funny piece about this nonpartisan issue that has been turned into a partisan issue? Yeah, I was incredibly proud."

For Mike Farah, FOD's president of production, the video was the fulfillment of a longterm goal. Six years before, he'd made a wager with himself in the form of a handwritten contract: At some point, the site was going to make a video with the president of the United States. So when Farah saw Obama at the White House Correspondents' dinner in May, he showed him the "contract," which was little more than a scrap of paper. The president pulled out a pen and signed it, adding a coda: "I'm glad you won the bet."

CAN YOU BELIEVE it's been seven years and 3 billion views since "The Landlord"—2-year-old Pearl, played by Adam McKay's actual daughter—stood on that doorstep and shrieked to Will Ferrell, "I want my money, bitch!"? Neither can Ferrell.

"We're still amazed, on some level, that it's still all happening," he told me recently.

In the ensuing years, the site has evolved from a playground for Ferrell and his funny friends into the gold standard for comedy online-and a booming business that has one foot in Silicon Valley and the other in the town that it is helping to change: Hollywood. The site has been impressively nimble in straddling the art-commerce divide, preserving its creative autonomy while getting videos made quickly and inexpensively, under a range of envelopepushing deals with advertisers. With over a hundred employees, it has an in-house production facility where it makes its videos and, increasingly, TV series based on those videos, plus a slate of feature films in development. Add to that the site's always-ahead-of-the-curve engagement with social media (FOD has three staffers dedicated to nothing else) and the answer to the question "What's next for Funny or Die?" becomes more than a mere curiosity. In a very real way, FOD is inventing the kind of entertainment that will make the future laugh.

It almost didn't happen at all: Ferrell and McKay admit that if they'd followed their original instincts, the site would never have gotten off the ground. Mark Kvamme, a partner at the famed VC firm Sequoia Capital, teamed up with the head of business development at Creative Artists Agency to pitch them the idea. Thanks, Ferrell and McKay said, but no thanks. "We thought, 'Well, why would we do that?'" recalls McKay. It was their

manager, Jimmy Miller, who persuaded them to reconsider. Kvamme wasn't asking them to invest any money (Sequoia funded the start-up), only creative energy. "Jimmy said, 'It will just be a fun little thing, and if, by chance, it hits, great.' We couldn't argue with that," McKay recalls. "We thought it was going to occasionally have a video that got a million hits, but most of the time it would just be a few thousand and a good

place to goof around. And then, of course, 'The Landlord' hit and immediately thrust it into the deep end."

Movie studios and TV networks are notorious for leaving projects in limbo for years. By contrast, FOD—which produces as many as thirty new videos a month—is all about speed. I've covered the entertainment industry for nearly twenty years, I've spent time in a lot of Hollywood offices, and I've never seen a company that hums with the kind of looseness, optimism, and unrelenting pace that seems routine at the FOD laugh factory. During the week I spent there, I saw videos come together—from the dawn of the idea to release—in just three days, and no one seemed to be asking permission before rolling cameras.

"If we do a video and it works, we get the attention and notoriety and have a huge success," says FOD chief executive Dick Glover, a former NASCAR executive who met Ferrell and McKay on the set of *Talladega Nights*. "If it doesn't work, it's just a shitty little Internet video. Nobody cares. So there's no risk."

Still, FOD is building its business on much more than traditional Internet advertising sold against viral videos. The company has a unit that makes comedy specials (it has a deal with HBO); a Branded Entertainment division (which has created original sketches for Under Armour, Norelco, and more than 400 other brands): and several popular web series, including "Gay of Thrones," a weekly recap of the HBO epic fantasy that is led by a catty hairdresser and a revolving stable of guests, and "Drunk History," now also a TV series on Comedy Central, in which actors lip-sync a drunk narrator's halting attempt to recount a historic event or read a classic poem.

Which is all very cool and modern and multi-platform...but does the site turn a profit?

FOD chief operating officer Mitch Galbraith says yes. He declines to get specific, but he says that in the two years since *The Hollywood Reporter* reported \$31 million in annual revenues, that figure has "gotten substantially, materially bigger."

Galbraith calls the merging of the tech and entertainment cultures within FOD "a key ingredient to our success" even as he acknowledges it's not always easy to maintain. "I don't know if *struggle* is the right word, but in managing those disparate cultures, there is a temptation for an us-versus-them mentality or for friction," he says. "Silicon Valley tends to be, in broad generalizations, frugal and techoriented—an 'If they come, we will build it' mentality. In contrast, Hollywood is very talent-focused"—by which he means

### Botched Historic Moment of the Year: **Scottish Independence**

This was finally gonna be the year Scotland would wiggle free of England, right? For a mostly comprehensible lesson on what went down, we had a few drinks with our favorite expert, Derek Waters of *Drunk History*.



1. IN THE LATE 1200s, Scotland didn't have a king, and the English said, "We'll be king—this'll be fun." Like in *The Lion King*, that song about getting all the power. [Singing] *ljust can't wait to be king*. That was the King of England. Now he's King of Scotland, too.



3. ANYWAY, AFTER YEARS of just talking, the Scottish said, "We're gonna have a vote to see about being independent." Independent like a country, not independent like a Sundance Film Festival winner. And England was like, "Oh, fine."

2. SO SCOTLAND'S ruled by a bunch of kings but stays sorta separate. Until 1707. Scotland goes broke and joins England with the Acts of Union. Ax like a weapon, not like

4. SO ALL OF SCOTLAND'S famous people spoke up about what they thought. James Bond, he was super pro-independence. In fact, Sean Connery was so wound up he was like 75 percent Mel Gibson in Braveheart and 25 percent Mel Gibson in real life.



5. AND AFTER ALL THAT, Scotland voted this fall not to be independent. For real. They basically treated the whole thing like *Ghostbusters 3*. Like, "Oh, I would love to see this happen! Wait, yeah, let's leave it alone. Nothing's going to be better than what we already have."—AS TOLD TO KEVIN LINCOLN





• The immortal videos of Funny or Die: clockwise from top left, "Between Two Ferns," White House edition; "Downton Diddy" with Sean Combs; "The Landlord" starring Will Ferrell; "Forehead Tittaes" with Marion Cotillard.

profligate, but he's too polite to say so. "Doing those things at once is hard. They're at odds sometimes."

THE ACTORS AND COMEDIANS who populate many of FOD's best-loved videos certainly appreciate that risk-free environment Dick Glover was talking about. The site gives them a chance to show their range. Making a video requires very little time. Talent gives up no control. It's all upside, and Marion Cotillard is a prime example of why.

The first thing you notice upon entering Mike Farah's office is a huge black-and-white photograph of Cotillard's beautiful face. The next thing you notice is that she has a miniature set of voluptuous breasts stuck to her forehead—props from a 2010 FOD video, "Forehead Tittaes," about a product designed to redirect the male gaze to a spot at least a *little* nearer a woman's eyes.

"I love that picture," Farah says, gazing fondly. "That's what an Academy Awardwinning actress should do: put fake tits on her forehead in the name of workplace equality. I just think that's what Funny or Die can be."

Cotillard was seen as a serious dramatic actress after winning the Oscar for *La Vie en Rose*. But she's funny, too, and by gluing tiny mammaries to her face, FOD gave her the platform to display that talent (5 million views to date). Farah and I are talking about this phenomenon when the actor Hank Azaria walks in and plunks himself down in a chair. Azaria had an idea for a character named Jim Brockmire, a nonsensical sports announcer whose emotion often overshadowed his playby-play. He pitched it to Farah and made a FOD video in 2010 called "A Legend in the Booth." Azaria remembers being

blown away by the site's collaborative attitude during production and says he benefited hugely from FOD's facilities and expertise. "They provided everything: wardrobe, camera, locations," he says, adding that in contrast to TV projects, "it was pretty much instant gratification." Now he's working with FOD to turn the sketch into a feature film. "I got to make my thing that I love. They got to make a funny video. We all had a good time."

That sensibility colors everything FOD does. Famous people who develop material on the site don't get paid, but they maintain ownership of their ideas and control their future use. (They even have final veto power if they make a video and then decide they don't want it to be posted. Pharrell Williams, among others, has taken advantage of this policy.)

An exception to the "talent works free" principle: the branded-content divi-

sion. FOD charges companies to produce these videos, of course, and so the actors—Jane Lynch, Dave Franco, Jim Gaffigan, to name a few recent examples—get paid.

The site's pitch to potential partners? We'll help you reach your target customers in what Galbraith calls "a more authentic way" than traditional

advertising. While they work closely with the client on the idea and the talent selection, FOD has final say over the end product. That's how Norelco got featured in a series called "The Playoff Beard Follies" and how a certain overpowering body spray popped up in a video showing multiple men chasing a screaming woman through the streets. The blurb atop the video asks, "What if AXE made body spray for women... It'd be pretty creepy."

All this pimping of products raises a question: Isn't FOD, which has staked so much on being the site that's willing to poke fun at The Man, running the risk of becoming The Man? Everyone I asked said no, but creative director Andrew Steele, a former head writer for Saturday Night Live, said it best: Younger people are so used to product placement that they hardly notice it anymore, "so I don't know who we're alienating. I mean, I could go on a personal rant about some of the products, but, again, I'm an old man. I just start sounding like a guy screaming

from his porch: 'Don't you know what this product is doing?' But [the viewers] don't care. And again, there are a lot of evils in the world, but Reese's Peanut Butter Cups is not one of them."

"SPORTS SKETCHES are tough," Alex Richanbach, a producer assigned to create a new vertical called Funny or Die Sports, told me one afternoon.

Why? Because when you want to attract 35 million unique users a month, as FOD routinely does, you need star power—and relying on access to athletes is a logistical nightmare. (They have those stupid games all the time.) "And if a sports sketch doesn't have an athlete in it, it can become just a talking-head thing," Richanbach continued, by which he meant: just another blah Internet video.

An hour before my chat with Richanbach, Andrew Steele had kicked off an

Cotillard was seen as a serious dramatic actress. But she's funny, too, and by gluing tiny mammaries to her face, FOD gave her the platform to display that talent.

ideas meeting by challenging his writers to overcome these hurdles and make sports hilarious. Oh, and one more hurdle: Do it for cheap.

"Super cheap, unfortunately," Steele told the four staffers who were assembled around a conference table at the site's headquarters. The assistant who'd been sent for coffee hadn't returned yet, but the writers seemed caffeinated just knowing what they were up against.

## EVEN OUR APPS ARE A ERODYNAMIC.

Our app was designed to be as efficient as possible. No muss, no fuss. Just the things you need, when you need them—from checking in to purchasing an upgrade to eBoarding passes. Making the Fly Delta app #1 in the industry. No wonder more people choose Delta than any other airline.

KEEP CLIMBING 📤 DELTA 🧓

CKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT; CHP/FAMEFLYNET; CIAO/AKM-GSI; FAMEFLYNET; SHARPSHOOTER IMAGES/SPLASH NEWS/CORBIS; SPLASH NEWS/CORBIS

The ideating began with fantasy football. Chicago Bears tight end Martellus Bennett had dropped by recently and pitched an idea for a video series: him and a bunch of his NFL friends doing a fantasy draft of normal people, like schoolteachers and real estate agents.

"We could start a whole fantasy Realtor movement," Steele mused, sounding unconvinced. Someone offered up a documentary, set in the '90s, called "The Last Baseball Game Anybody Gave a Shit About," which everyone seemed to like. But Steele liked another idea better: "Stadium Drunk Tank!" The conceit, inspired by the makeshift jail cells most stadiums have to contain their most shitfaced fans, was this: After games, FOD would assemble the impaired to talk about their lives and to recap, as Steele put it, "who fucking fumbled what."

Good stuff. Still, it was clear that Steele wasn't quite satisfied. The room went silent for a few moments. Finally, Jake Fogelnest, who's been professionally funny since age 14, when he invented a public-access show in his bedroom called Squirt TV,

spoke up. "How about a sketch called 'Durant Durant?" he asked. "It's about a Duran Duran cover band fronted by Kevin Durant." For the first time all meeting, the room rocked with laughter, and Richanbach announced that Fogelnest, for one, had "just earned his iced coffee," which the assistant promptly walked in the door and delivered.

And with that, the brainstorming session ended and everybody filed out. In the ensuing lull, it was hard to know which was more remarkable: the meeting's energy (unflagging), its brevity (thirty-nine minutes), or the fact that, despite the writers' awareness that "sports sketches are tough," it didn't seem to occur to anyone that getting the second-biggest star in the NBA to channel his inner Simon Le Bon might be more than a phone call away.

Nor does anyone at Funny or Die seem particularly concerned about the potential challenges to the site's ongoing dominance: competitors like College Humor and The Onion; the long-term viability of a business model that depends upon stars working for free; and even the growing presence in the digital-video business

of union labor—a deeply ingrained (and definitely *not* super cheap) part of the traditional Hollywood ecosystem. It's undeniable that Ferrell and friends have a huge head start, and the place exudes a collective confidence that this advantage, combined with the site's unprecedented access to talent, will keep Funny or Die ahead of the game for the foreseeable future.

Ask Mike Farah what's next, meanwhile, and he ticks off a list of "a few fucking things that I just know should happen." Such as? "We've always wanted a world-class auteur like Scorsese to direct the world's greatest cat video." Then there's the commemorative edition of Paris Hilton's 2003 sex tape. "I wanted to do a Criterion Collection tenyear-anniversary edition, where we would go behind the scenes and find out that, like, Steven Soderbergh directed it and all these amazing people worked on it," Farah says, clearly still holding out hope. "She told me she'd do it, and then she didn't end up doing it. If she reads this, we still should do that. I mean, who doesn't want to see that?"

AMY WALLACE is a GQ correspondent.

The guy wasn't in a single movie this year. He didn't even save a polar bear, as far as we

know. But what he did was have basically the best year off of any man alive. If you don't believe leisure is good for you, just look into

the eyes of the man with the Super Soaker.

### Man of Leisure of the Year: Leonardo DiCaprio

•The marine-jetpack flight of 2013 actually took place in Leisure Fiscal Year 2014.



### CONCERTS!

Indio, Califor

You would never know it was him, because he's wearing some kind of Invisible
Man getup. But that's a dude who's ready to rock. That's a guy wearing the most intoxicating perfume imaginable:
eau de ITRULY DO NOT GIVE A FUCK.
And he still has a model next to him.

### CASUAL BOATING!

Brazil, Spain, France, et al. "You know what? I like this \$100 million yacht. This is where I'll be taking most of my phone calls this year."





### YACHT KARATE!

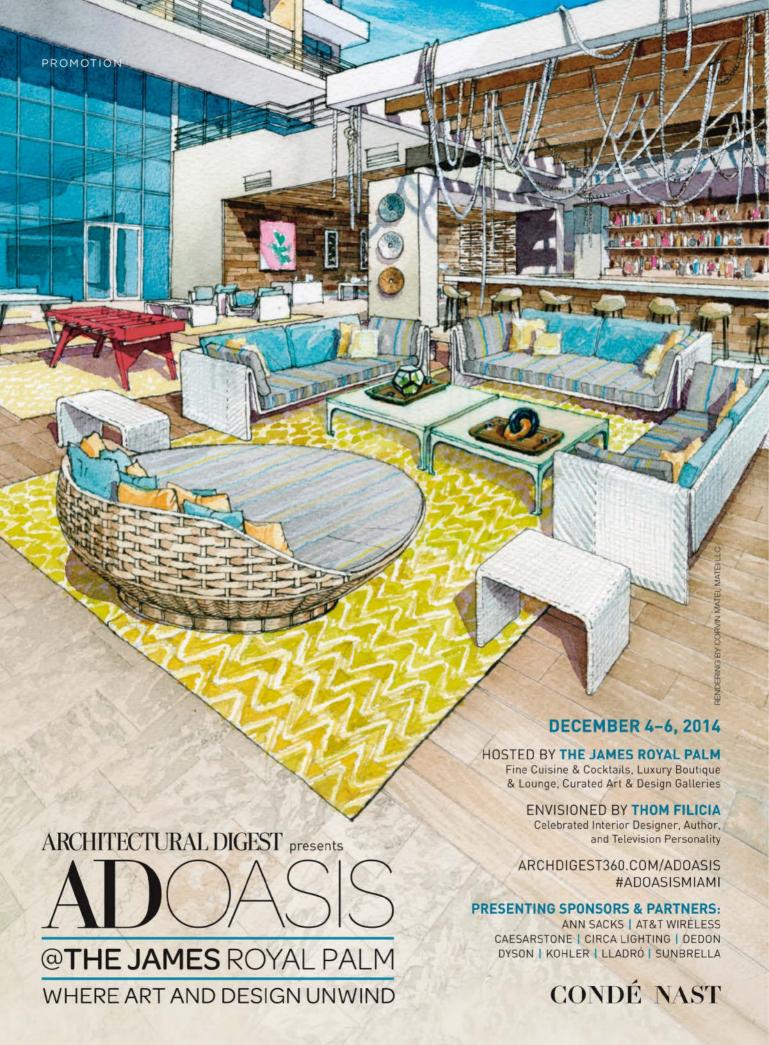
St-Tropez, France "Hey, let's take this \$100 million yacht out in

take this \$100 million yacht out in the Mediterranean and do some roundhouses in jeans! Why? Because I thought of it."

### **SQUIRT GUNS!**

Sardinia, Italy
If your 16-year-old self
could have picked a future,
this would have been it.











Word gets around about Iovine. Two years later, he's the sound engineer on Bruce Springsteen's Born to Run. Through the '70s and '80s, his reputation grows, the names pile up. Tom Petty. Patti Smith. U2. In 1990, Iovine starts a record label, Interscope. One day a young rapper comes in, plays a track. The guy is Andre Young, a.k.a. Dr. Dre. The album is The Chronic. Over the next two decades, Iovine signs Eminem, Snoop Dogg, Nine Inch Nails, Lady Gaga. Too many to name.

Cut to 2006. Dre tells Iovine he's getting offers to do a sneaker line. "Screw sneakers," Iovine says. "Let's do speakers." Frustrated by the lack of quality headphones to go with the iPod, they start the headphones line Beats by Dr. Dre, which soon expands into a streaming business. This spring, Iovine and Dre sold it all to Apple for \$3 billion, and Iovine stepped down as chairman of Interscope Geffen A&M. Apple bought him, too—to help the company imagine the future and, in the words of Iovine, "make a service that is as compelling as the music."

### How did Apple come to buy Beats?

I convinced them that they had to buy this company. I said, "I don't want to work for anybody else. I want to do this at Apple. I know I can achieve this at Apple. I don't want to shop it. I wanna come here, to Steve's company. I know you guys; I know what you're capable of; I know you get popular culture. I know you have a hole in music right now; let me plug it." I think it was two years before they said yeah.

### What do you mean they had a "hole" in music?

After Steve died, and with the rise of streaming, I could see they needed something. Beats Music fit.

### You grew up in Red Hook—

I came from Brooklyn. My nickname was Moochie. My father was incredible, a longshoreman; my mother was a secretary. Very "go to work" people. That's how I saw things. I loved music, and I wanted to do something different. When did you get turned on to music?

Very simple: "She Loves You." Boom! I was on the floor of my mother's house, looking at an RCA television, waiting for the Beatles to come on.

You never thought of music before that? No. It was like getting burnt. You remember it.

John Lennon once asked you why you got into music. And you lied to him. Well, yeah, because you've got a *Beatle* asking you. You know, I'm 20 years old, and he goes, "Why are you doing this?" I said, "I saw you guvs on Ed Sullivan: I bought a guitar, and I wanted to be in a band. And I realized I couldn't be in a band, so I wanted to get as close to it as I can." I said, "John, why'd you get

into it?" He said, "To get laid." I said, "Fuck, that's why I got into it!"

### Which is interesting, because you gained success with these artists by being brutally honest with them. The power of the truth, right?

Every day, Springsteen and Patti [Smith] were so uncompromising. They were going for greatness. And in the studio, remember: The truth is attached to something. I was always able to care about their music as much as they did. When I was in there with them, there was nothing else I gave a shit about in life. Nothing. Not even myself.

See, I'm a sponge. I can't learn in school, but I can learn from somebody who I think is cool and great. I have a gift: I'm very lucky to be able to spot when a person is special. I'm good at casting my life, you know?

### How did you meet Dre?

Him and Suge [Knight, then CEO of Death Row Records] came in, and they brought The Chronic. I'd just come out of Rattle and Hum with U2. I knew hip-hop was going around, but I had no idea what it was. And then Dre walked in, and I said, "I don't know hip-hop, but I know my speakers. Who engineered it?" Dre said, "I did." When they told me the story of how they made the record, you might as well make a record falling out of a building. They were sneaking into studios; the government was after them; there were lawsuits, one RICO case, all on a bunch of guys who had no (continued on page 207)

TO READ OUR FEATURE

Found: The Music You Probably Missed in 2014, turn the page (and look under the shiny cars).









# Cadillac THE NEXT 2015 ESCALADE



### Found:

The Music You Probably

Missed in 2014



TRAVI\$ SCOTT, the hyperactive hip-hop ace you see here

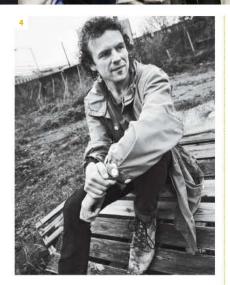


### **BECAUSE** ALGORITHMS HAVE CRAPPY TASTE

### **Four New Artists Your Streaming Service** Isn't Playing Enough









### **Travi\$ Scott** Days Before Rodeo

 In a sleepy year for hip-hop, rap's young energy god—and most berserk live act proves that, yes, he can sit still long enough to make a dark 'n' stormy headphone masterpiece.



### Sturgill Simpson Metamodern Sounds in Country Music

 A former military man with a voice like Waylon's and a knack for wrenching outlaw ballads about love and LSD...in 2014? Believe it.



### Young Fathers DEAD

 Miss the Gorillaz? Check out this experimental rap trio with funny Scottish accents who have the sonic range and big hooks of Damon Albarn's cartoon friends but in the flesh.



### **Amen Dunes** Love

· Album cover of the vearnot just for the tasteful fonts and the ethereally sexy photo. but because it sets the tone for Damon McMahon's unearthly modernfolk sound.

### M E T R O B O O M I N



### Meet the Philip Glass and Steve Reich of Minimalist Rap

→ From Atlanta to L.A., the sound of hip-hop right now is stark—songs are symphonies of a few bleak sounds—and these are its two most ubiquitous composers. Here, everything you need to know about the unknown producers who secretly soundtracked the year.

Who: Atlanta-based 21-year-old who produced titanic singles for Future and Travi\$ Scott.

Signature sound: Downbeat synths. thundering bass, rowdy atmosphere.

**Signature songs:** Future's "Honest," **ILoveMakonnen** and Drake's "Tuesday."

Already being ripped off by: Half of Atlanta.

True fact: His mom used to drive him eight hours from his native St. Louis to Atlanta so he could work with rappers he met on the Internet.

Who: L.A.-bornand-bred 24-yearold with sixteen hits and counting on Billboard's Top 100 this year alone.

Signature sound: Addition by subtraction. (Think pulses, snaps, hisses, and clicks.)

**Signature songs:** Big Sean's "I Don't Fuck with You,"

YG and Drake's "Who Do You Love," Tinashe's "2 On."

Already being ripped off by: Iggy Azalea on "Fancy."

True fact:

Mustard's birth name is Dijon McFarlane. He owns a chain with an enormous bejeweled mustard bottle on it.



I/ISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT; BENNETT RAGLIN/BET/GETTY IMAGES FOR BET; ASTRID STAWIARZ/GETTY IMAGES; RICHTER/CORBIS OUTLINE; THEONEPOINTEIGHT; COURTESY OF ANDY SAPP OF SOUTHERN REEL

### The Many Fashion

GQSOUNDTRACK+MOTY

### André 3000

Statements of

• During Outkast's epic twentiethanniversary tour, André 3000 didn't unleash any new songs—but he wrote a whole album's worth of concepts, oneliners, and jokes on his stage costumes. Somebody book this dude a studio: "Make love like war" could've been the new "Shake it like a Polaroid picture," man!





### ROCK IN PEACE, ROWLAND S. HOWARD The Snarling Deathbed Album That Will Give You Shivers

• MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, 1976—a 16-year-old boy named Rowland S. Howard writes a deceptively melodic song called "Shivers." It begins: I've been contemplating suicide, / but it really doesn't suit my style.... Howard looked like a feral woodland creature, thin and feminine and not quite of this earth. In the admittedly limited world of teenagers making post-punk in Australia in the '70s, he was maybe the weirdest and most savage: weirder even

than Nick Cave, who teased him at first, though later he'd invite Howard to join his band, the Boys Next Door, which became the Birthday Party. In that band it was Cave who sang "Shivers," in an early stab at the haunted-house delivery that would become his signature. But look up Howard's version: It's one of those recordings so specific to a time and place and person that you get vertigo listening to it, trapped in a room with this sad, snarling, sardonic teenager.

"Shivers" was the beginning of something; *Pop Crimes*, which Howard recorded in 2009 in the months before he died, at age 50, from liver cancer, marks a sad but suitable end. Finally released this year in America, the album is spooky, brutal, and perversely funny; Howard knew he might be dying and wrote the lyric *I guess that I won't see you tomorrow / On this, our planet of perpetual sorrows*. Listening to the record, you're back in the room with him, marveling at the cruelty of the world and laughing anyway.

• Our four favorite reissues and compilations of forgotten hymns, grooves, and jams—all recently uncovered by the crazy angels who still bother to run obscure record labels in this day and age.









1

### Hailu Mergia and The Walias Tche Belew

• Fela Kuti isn't the only funky man in Africa, people. Hailu's slinky feelgood organ jams will uplift your workcurdled heart and make you dance. Listen to it: At your next dinner party.



### I Am the Center Private Issue New Age Music in America 1950–1990

• If New Age music can be DIY and kinda punk, this is it. All the bliss, none of the douche-chills. **Listen to it:** While meditating and/ or making love.

3

### NME C86

• The founding document of indie pop: twee British bands like Primal Scream singing about heartbreak and bullfighters in 1986. Listen to it: While getting dressed (and getting drunk) on Friday nights.



### I Heard the Angels Singing Electrifying Black Gospel from the Nashboro Label 1951–1983

• Before soul, R&B, and rock, there was gospel: black southerners singing gritty hymns above a Nashville warehouse. **Listen to it:** Sundays.



**The First-Ever Lost Jay Z Verse... Found!** A new song suggests the God MC is still godly.

• JAY Z STEPS OUTSIDE to throw away a piece of gum: Swarms of paparazzi document it. Jay Z drops a virtuosic rap verse and... crickets? It's hard to say how a Jay Z song—especially one for a Beats by Dr. Dre World Cup ad—went unnoticed in 2014. But his verse on "Jungle (Remix)" did, and we suggest you Google it stat to be reminded why Jay is rap's Jordan: doctoral-level metaphors, billionaire bravado, and a flow that still has a step on the youngsters. It's the best thing from Hov since Watch the Throne and gives us high hopes that his next album will be more The Blueprint than The Blueprint 3.

### Hey, DJs! What's the one track we all need to hear right now?

• Hudson
Mohawke
"The Church"
by Mr. Oizo
"Even his hardest
club songs toy
with his audience.
I loved 'Douche
Beat'—he's trolling
his fans. This track
does it again,
and it's a banger."

### • Clams Casino "Pendulum" by FKA Twigs

"The overlapping rhythms make it a completely disorienting R&B song. You think you're losing your center of gravity and tipping over, till you come around."



# \* Matthew Dear "Red Eyes" by the War on Drugs "It's rock 'n' roll that's pure. It sounds new and old at the same time, reminding me of my past without being born from retro trickery. This song just makes me feel alive."



### TURNS THE MAN OF THE YEAR INTO THE MAN.



### Cadillac

GENERATION 2015

**ESCALADE** 

Available OnStar with 4G LTE and built-in Wi-Fi® hotspot\*

Finely stitched, premium-leather seats available

Choice of five distinct interior themes

cadillac.com/2015-Escalade



money and were making an album. I said, "Wow. If you can do it under those circumstances, let's go."

### You've said that the motto of Beats is: Everything we know could possibly be wrong already.

I approach everything like that. If you don't think that, you're old, whether you're 25 or 55. And it's scary to keep moving. [David] Geffen's been telling me for thirty years: "Don't define yourself by your job, or else you're not going to be able to move forward. You'll be trapped." He pounded that into my head. Life is a balance of fear and overcoming it. You can use fear as a tailwind or a headwind. I'm most proud that I thought of Beats at 55. Dre and I want to move the needle on the culture. That's everything to me. "We caused it." I'd say it's more important than money, but you wouldn't believe me.

All I can tell you is how I feel. I feel open to anything. Here's an example. In 1998, Death Row was exploding; 'Pac got killed just before; everything was fuckin' upside-down. And my assistant got married, so they put in a temp. And the kid had balls. He said, "I went to this rap battle last night. I saw this kid who was incredible." I said, "Figure out how to get a CD from that kid, and I'll play it for Dre." Next day, he comes back: "Here it is." I listen to it, and I go, "I have no idea what the fuck this is." This guy is screaming about his mother; he wants to kill his mother. I come from a place where you don't kill your mother. Right? I saw Dre, and I gave it to him. The rest is a fabulous story. His name was Eminem.

### Is there anything I haven't asked you that you want to—

Just my relationship with Dre. I want to make sure that's—'cause that's really a special thing. We trust each other implicitly. It's the closest to a band as I was ever in. We know what each other does, and we trust each other's instincts so much, that when he's moving somewhere and I go, "No," he goes, "Okay, let's not do that." We've been through a lot; this is a guy—I always say, "You may know a lot of people who have gotten shot, but you don't know a lot of people who have shot back."

### What is peace for you?

When you wake up in the morning and you can be present. When I go up to Apple to work on this music service we're doing, I'm in it. [He spends a couple of days a week at Apple headquarters in Cupertino.] I'm in that spot from 1973, in the studio, just saying, "I've gotta crack the code on this thing." But I got it. It doesn't have me. The holy grail is peace, with ambition. Otherwise, you've wasted your life.

### And did "it" used to have you?

It used to *drive* me. *It* was driving. And I wish I had been more chill, more happy about the work. But I was miserable. I was just working. I was like, "Okay, you're supposed to feel scared and freaked out and wanting to win and make hit records." So I did it twenty hours a day, seven days a week. That's *all* I did.

### If you were advising the 19-year-old Jimmy, what would you say?

Get your bullshit out of your way and be open-minded. And then I'd push him in



 A long way from Brooklyn and Compton: Jimmy and Dre in Beverly Hills with Liberty Ross.

the direction of marrying technology and content. Most technology companies are culturally inept, and most entertainment companies are technologically inept. You can't live like that anymore.

That's it. You gotta be open like that, no matter how much helium you got, no matter how much money you got—you can't be defined by the success. Yeah, my relationships are helped because of all the success I've had, but I'm only as useful as the idea I have today or tomorrow.

Otherwise, I'm just a trophy.

MICHAEL HAINEY is GQ's deputy editor.

### Guilty Pleasure of the Year: **Hot Mug Shots**

In 2014, the web proved it'll go nuts for *any* pretty face—even lawless hotties like Jeremy Meeks (weapons charges) and Angela Coates (disorderly conduct). We decided to do a little matchmaking.—LINDY WEST

**USERNAME:**BoyMeeksGirl

30/M/Straight STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

MY SELF-SUMMARY: Ball-and-chain seeks partner in crime for latenight runs down by the river. And up past the stockyard. And maybe into the culvert under the freeway. WHAT I'M DOING WITH MY LIFE: Some months, I just

Some months, I just stay in doing pushups and reading books my, um, landlord will loan. If you're a modeling agent or lawyer, I'd love to smuggle my weapon in your trunk. FIGURATIVELY, I SWEAR.

I'M REALLY GOOD AT: Eyeballs, PR.







**USERNAME:** MissOrderlyConduct

22/F/Straight DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA

MY SELF-SUMMARY: Outgoing, gregarious, bubbly, ebullient, convivial, some might say "loud," chummy, companionable, assertive, super-hot night-owl model who loves life (and who hasn't actually been convicted!) seeks universe full of crazy old creeps to seriously stop fucking tweeting at me.

WHAT I'M DOING WITH MY LIFE: Paying my own bail, horndogs.

I'M REALLY GOOD AT: Conduct, being orderly.



### The Breakouts

The leading man is dying. There are no stars anymore. Hollywood glamour is history.

Okay, so if that's all true—and every year the drumbeat seems to get louder—how do we explain THIS year, when a whole new gang of gifted actors bum-rushed the big screen, shoving the old lions (Cruise, Depp, etc.) out of the way? On second thought, let's not explain it. Let's just be grateful that 2014 was the year that Hollywood reloaded. Meet the seven men—and one simply irresistible woman—whom we'll be watching for decades to come

BEN WATTS

# Everything (Chris Pratt Does) Is Awesome Parts 1-41

TODAY YOU ARE going to learn all about Chris Pratt, and the biggest thing you'll learn is that he is awesome. That's probably not a shock to you. Chances are you've seen Pratt in a movie or a TV show in recent years and you've thought to yourself, That guy looks kind of cool. So many actors seem like cocks, but I would hang with that guy! Your instincts have served you well. Chris Pratt is as advertised. He is not a cock.

The fact that he starred in two of the biggest movies this year-The Lego Movie and Guardians of the Galaxy (both of which featured the word awesome in their theme music)—is but the tip of the iceberg. Pratt's awesomeness can be subdivided into no fewer than forty-one parts. I only spent a day with the guy, and in that day we shot guns, we grilled dead animals, we got mad at asshole drivers, we busted out some really good whiskey, we smoked cigars, we hung out at his house, we talked about strippers and compound bows, and he told highly amusing stories about Mickey Rourke and David Letterman being dicks. All of that is awesome. None of that is lame. I don't really want to share Pratt with you, frankly. HANDS OFF I SAW HIM FIRST.

Yep, it's gonna get very journo-porny around here, and I apologize in advance. But Pratt is a one-man industry of awesome. He is a BuzzFeed listicle that your mommy forwards to you, in human form. So let's turn this thing into an awesome Chris Pratt-icle starting NOW.

1. Chris Pratt will bring all the firearms to the party. I don't have to pack anything for today's man-date in Los Angeles. Pratt's bringing the guns, the ammo, and the clay pigeons. Later, he will also insist on paying our grocery tab. He picks me up outside my hotel in his blood red Ford F-150 Raptor pickup. A big kick-ass American FUCK

YOU truck. You could fit Oklahoma inside it. Where did he get this truck? I'm glad I'm pretending you asked!

### 2. He bought the truck two weeks ago, on the way back from a bachelor party in Reno.

It was a chill bachelor party. A *mature*, stripper-free bachelor party. Just a bunch of guys sitting around, getting smashed on homemade whiskey. "I was pretty worthless the whole weekend," he says. He bought the truck and drove it back to L.A. in time to be on the set of *Parks and Recreation* the next morning. How could Pratt make a \$50,000 impulse purchase just like that?

3. Because Chris Pratt motherfucking owned everyone's motherfucking shit this year. He starred in the number one and number three highest-grossing movies of 2014: Guardians of the Galaxy, in which he surprised everyone by deftly anchoring a new Marvel Studios franchise, and The Lego Movie, which surprised everyone by being a razor-sharp, legitimately funny comedy and not a glorified toy commercial. The massive success of Guardians was a particular shock, given that Pratt had never headlined a movie before, and given that no one had previously given a crap about Guardians (apologies to the comic's three loyal fanboys), and given that Pratt, playing a character named Star-Lord, spent the movie surrounded by a green alien, a homicidal raccoon, and a grunting tree. But he pulled that off, even though...

4. Everyone originally thought he was too fat for the role. "I thought it was an insane idea to cast the fat guy from Parks and Rec as the lead of our superhero movie," says Guardians of the Galaxy director James Gunn. "I didn't really even want to see him." You can probably guess what

in a doughy, doofus-y kind of way. But that wasn't the guy we saw this year in 'Guardians of the Galaxy.' This guy was rakish and convincingly worldweary. This guy was broadshouldered enough to carry the summer's biggest blockbuster. This guy was a young Harrison Ford. GQ'S DREW MAGARY goes target shooting, beer drinking, and dove grilling—yes, doves, as in, the pretty white birds that symbolize peace but taste really good after you kill them—with the year's most

We always knew he was funny,

happened next: Skeptical director brings in fat, unheralded actor for an audition and is BLOWN AWAY, so much so that...

surprising new action hero

### **5. Star-Lord was almost fat.** Says Gunn:

"I thought, Well, hell, he's overweight, but if that means we have the world's first overweight superhero, I'm okay with it." Pratt didn't see the problem, either. "You can make a talking raccoon that looks real," he told me. "Why can't I just be fat?"

**6.** But he lost the weight and got ripped anyway... "I like the challenge of it."

7...and now he says Fat Pratt is gone for good. 1 "I'm done with that," he says. The week after we meet, he'll be hosting the season premiere of *SNL*, so he's on a no-starch (BOO) and no-booze (BOOOOO) diet. "I just feel like, if I drink, I want to drink a case of beer and not two beers. Two beers doesn't do anything for me." Attaboy. When I tell him I had pancakes for breakfast this morning, I see the ghost of Fat Pratt. "That sounds so goddamn good."

### 8. Chris Pratt loves shootin' stuff!

When Chris was 3, his father, Dan,<sup>2</sup> moved the family to a gold-mining camp

1. You could argue this is not awesome.

2. While Pratt's 2014 was undeniably awesome, I must pause here to note that much of it was rendered bittersweet by his father's death in June after a long battle with multiple sclerosis. It was expected, but still early—Dan was 60. "Nothing grounds you like facing mortality or seeing your father die," Chris says. "It made me realize that the older you get, the more likely it is that someone you care about—your parents; heaven forbid, a sibling or a child, even—will be taken away. There's no avoiding it. I got basically all the way till I was 35 until I had suffered my first great loss, so I have it pretty good."



## THE COLLECTIONS THAT COUNT

On these pages, each of 2014's breakouts wears one of our seven favorite fashion labels of the year—the designers who are defining how we dress (or, um, should be dressing, anyway).

Starting with...

#### **RALPH LAUREN**

There are countless quote-unquote rugged denim labels out there, but this year Ralph reclaimed his westernwear throne with patinaed jeans, ranch-hand shirts, and one particularly ballsy Marlboro Man coat (turn the page). If it feels authentic, that's because Ralph at age 75 still wears this stuff as effortlessly as Pratt does here.

OPENING PAGE shirt \$125 Polo Ralph Lauren tie \$115 jeans \$265 Ralph Lauren Black Label watch

watch Ralph Lauren Fine Watchmaking

tie bar

The Tie Bar belt Topman hat Stetson at JJ Hat Center

Stetson at JJ Hat Center
THIS PAGE

t-shirt \$85 jeans \$395

> vintage belt Melet Mercantile necklace Bing Bang

bracelets from top Miansai (tan leather) David Yurman (black) George Frost (brass) George Frost x Michael Bastian (bottom left) (9. His dad was a gold miner, yo) in remote Alaska. They lived there for about four years—until Pratt's father realized it was too dangerous for three little kids "because there's fuckin' bears and shit everywhere," Chris recalls. The Pratts eventually relocated to Washington State, but Alaska is where Chris's lifelong love of guns began.

We arrive at Angeles Shooting Ranges, on the outskirts of Los Angeles. We're here to blow up some clay pigeons with shotguns, and it's louder than hell. There's a dude in a LeBron Cavs jersey firing an assault rifle. There are big men teaching tiny women how to fire big-ass handguns. The BANGS and POPS and PINGS come from all directions, as if everyone is shooting at frying pans. It sounds like a Looney Tunes shoot-out. We're going to need earplugs. I buy a couple of cheap foamies, and of course one gets stuck in my ear, because God wants to make me look stupid in front of my new BFF. Stupid God.

10. Chris Pratt will pull a jammed earplug out of your earfor you. I ask for some help, and with no hesitation, Pratt digs right into my ear canal and yanks it out.

Are we wax brothers now?

"Yeah, we're wax bros," he says.
"That's just a little bit grosser than blood brothers."

Now we're ready to shoot. Pratt has brought two shotguns for us to use: a single-shot breakaway, his first gun (11. He bought it with his babysitting money when he was 12), and a single-barrel pump-action fella he inherited from his uncle—the kind of weapon that makes you feel like Al Capone sticking up a bank vault. Are these the only guns Pratt owns? Hell no!

- 12. Pratt's got a lotta guns! He's got many more at home, plus another stash up in Washington State, which is where he keeps all his guns that aren't legal in California. "It's really more just about collecting shit," he says of his cache of arms. He's not the type to go running out for ammo when a school gets shot up. "People are scared that they're not gonna be able to shoot anymore or something; I think people are being taken advantage of a little bit, probably."
- 13....And a compound bow! "I remember one day I texted him and said, 'I'm in your neighborhood—are you around?'" says Lego Movie co-director Chris Miller. "He happened to be practicing his compound bow in the backyard, and he gave me a lesson, and he had all these targets set

up in the back. I want to say that the target was a pretend animal? Like a pretend raccoon or something?"

#### 14. Chris Pratt is an excellent shot.

He opens up a cardboard box filled with clay pigeons—round discs the color of traffic cones and fragile as eggs. In the booth there's a mechanical thrower with a pedal you press with your foot to launch each disc into the air. Pratt steps on the pedal and the clay disc soars up into the air. Pratt gets a bead on it with his old Wonderboy gun, and as it hangs in the sky, he pulls the trigger and the disc is atomized. Bits of neon orange spray in every possible direction, like footage of a galaxy being born. Pratt goes five for five. He can even shoot lefty.

15. Chris Pratt is generous with his wisdom about how to blow shit out of the sky. He hands me the breakaway. "Put it nice and tight against your cheek," he says, "so when you move, you're moving your gun with your body." Got it. The wood is cold and smooth when I nuzzle against it. I gotta make sure NOT to shoot Pratt, because lots of people would be mad if I shot Pratt in the face, except for maybe Pratt. He'd probably be like, It's okay, buddy! You'll do better next time. He calls me "buddy" a lot. We're buddies! Maybe we'll go rock climbing. I don't need my regular loser friends anymore.

PULL

And I nail the pigeon, seeing it blow up like a bright orange paintball pellet, raining down clay shards on the scruffy turf below. It smells like camp. It makes me want to hunt real animals. It makes me want to hunt *man*.

All this gun shooting has gotten me hungry, which is good, because...

- 16. Chris Pratt's got dead doves in his freezer at home. He shot them a while back, and now we're driving back to his place to grill them up. Pratt also hunts pheasant, deer, elk...
- 17. But what he really loves is killin' coyotes. He shoots and skins and tans them by hand.
- 18. Sometimes he cleans coyote skins with his own piss! "I do a lot of predator hunting, farm varmints, out in Wyoming. Oh, my God. Get a farmer that's just got too many and he's like, 'Fuckin' kill as many as you want.' I used to go on VarmintFinders.com"—NOTE: Link was sadly expired when I tried it—"and the farmers would sign up, and the hunters would sign up, and the farmers will give you exclusive access to their land. So we'd go out there, and the marshal

would come out and go, 'Hey, what are you guys doing out here?' And I'd be like, 'Hey, fuckin' Jethro Willoughby or whoever said we could.'"

Does your wife like you hunting down Wile E.?

"She"—in case this is news to you, *she* is Anna Faris, the mega-talented comic actress—"doesn't like me coyote hunting. She's like, 'You're not gonna eat it.' I'm like, 'Yeah, I guess you're right. I just like to kill 'em.' Coyotes are assholes, and they'll eat your dog."

## 19. Pratt has Faris's name programmed into his truck's Bluetooth as "Anna, my love."

Not just "Anna." *Awwwwww*. That would be totally cute were it not for the fact that it doesn't work. He's trying to reach her now. "Call 'Anna, my love.' Call 'Anna, my love.' Oh, you fuckin' asshole."

We stop at a Safeway near Pratt's house in the Hollywood Hills. Our shopping list is for dove-roll ingredients: bacon, cream cheese, jalapeños. As it turns out, Pratt has an unlikely connection to Safeway.

20. His mom still works as a meat packer at a Safeway in Washington and has for the past twenty-nine years. I ask Pratt if his mom likes working for them. "They're fuckin' assholes," he says. "They're the worst." (21. Pratt isn't afraid to take on BIG GROCERY.)

Why doesn't she quit?
"Well, she's about one year from retirement."

Yeah, but you've got money now. You could buy her a house.

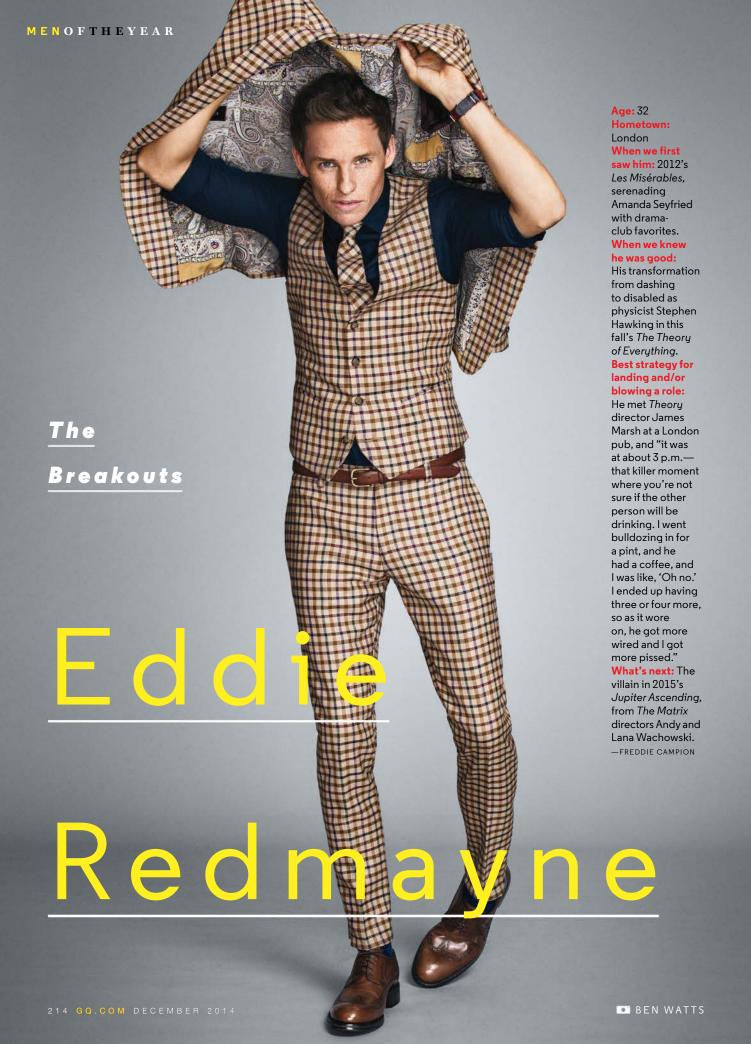
#### 22. "Oh, I bought her a house."

We've got our groceries, and it's time to head back to the Pratt/Faris abode. We pull up behind a line of cars turning left at a stoplight.

23. He gets road-ragey about traffic, just like you and I do! "See these cars on the right?" Pratt says. "They're gonna cut in, and someone's gonna cut in front of me. And I'm gonna want to run 'em over. It's gonna make my fucking blood boil. I don't have it in me to be the dick who cuts in. But I also don't have it in me to not get fucking super aggro at the dude who does it."

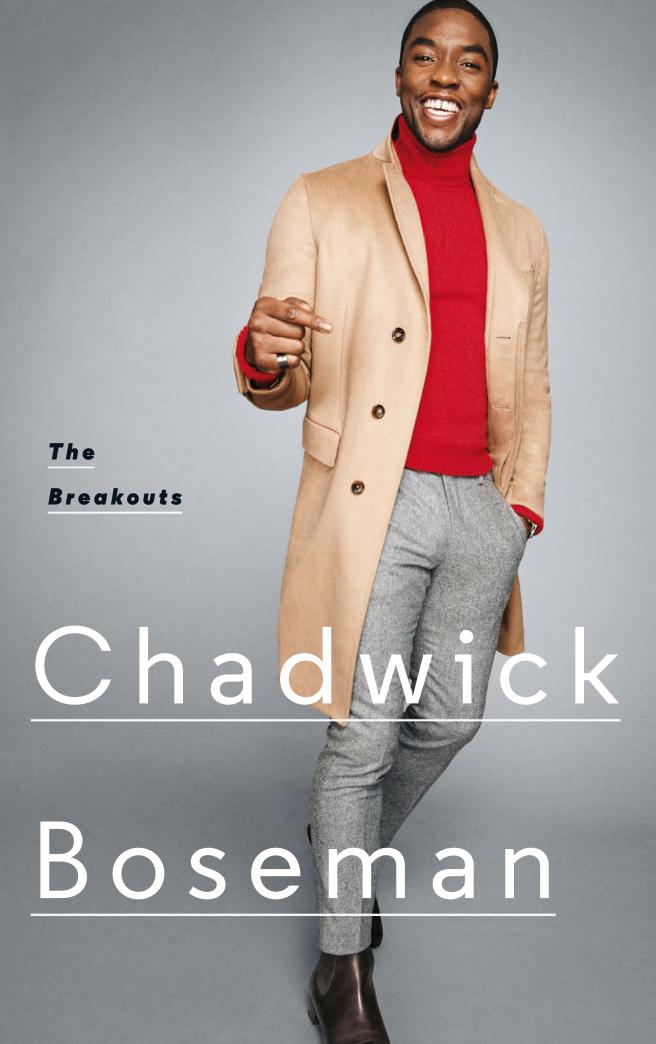
One dude, indeed, does it. It's a guy in a Porsche, because of course it is. And here is where the real Chris Pratt diverges ever so slightly from the friendly-Labrador Pratt you see on-screen. He is intense and driven—as driven as any other big-name actor. He just doesn't seem intense and driven, which is good, because actors who do (see: Cruise, Tom; also Smith, Will) are annoying. Fat guys from workplace sitcoms don't become (continued on page 265)









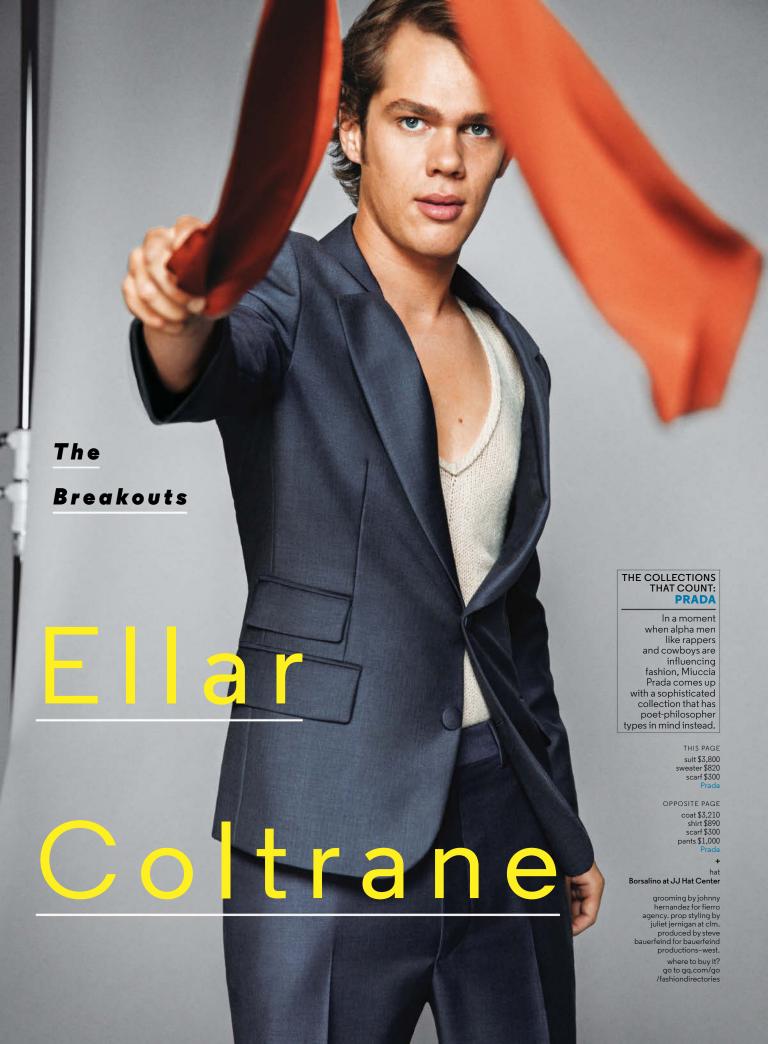




Age: 20 Hometown: Austin When we first saw him: As a thoughtful, moody 6-year-old, and then every year of his life along the way to becoming an even more thoughtful, moodier 18-yearold in Richard Linklater's Boyhood. When we knew he was good: Somewhere around year eight. When he knew his life was about to change: "Sundance was certainly kind of a

certainly kind of a little bit of a peek. I'm beginning to come to terms with it, but it just keeps going and just kind of gets bigger." But please stop asking him...

asking him... "What it feels like to watch myself grow up. I've been asked it at least 300 times this year. And it's just so hard to answer. Like, what do you say? It's really weird." What he does when fans tell him **Boyhood** made them cry: "I just tell them that I'm glad they enjoyed it, and just kind of look them in their eyes and be there with them and with their feelings. It's embarrassing, I think, to feel that much toward a stranger. I try to help people not feel awkward." On the possibility of Boyhood 2: Manhood: "That's a funny name! Manhood is a little bit suggestive." —JEN ORTIZ







A year ago, he was a teenager—a city kid with no interest in college but a thing for acting and EDM. Two enormous movies later (*Divergent* and *The Fault in Our Stars*) and **Ansel Elgort** is suddenly enjoying a rush of mega-popularity that guarantees one thing: By this time next year, you'll have trouble remembering the day you didn't know his name

→ DANIEL RILEY

BEN WATTS



ONE YEAR TO THE DAY since he and the cast of his fame-making movie, *The* Fault in Our Stars, wrapped production in Amsterdam, Ansel Elgort is back—though under wildly different circumstances. For one thing, he's technically here not as a newly anointed Hollywood sensation but as the electronic musician Ansølo, a side-hustle persona who's playing the Amsterdam Dance Event. More telling evidence of the difference between this year and last can be found at the canalside bench here in town where Ansel's high-charm cancer-surviving character breaks some very rough news to Shailene Woodley. Today the spot is a pilgrimage site for young fansthe sort of thing that might've happened in 1997 at the bow of the *Titanic*, had it not been built on a soundstage. That's actually a useful analogue: The Fault in Our Stars has done for Ansel what Titanic did for an early-twenties Leonardo DiCaprio, vaulting him to a measure of un-obscurity that's difficult to comprehend if you don't have a teenage niece or follow his social-media feeds. All of this after a year and four films.

While the inconveniences that attend this kind of fame are familiar-a teen-throb like Ansel, for example, has to enter and exit through the kitchens of hotels, anticipate mobs of young women prowling locations from which he's just posted Instagrams, and avoid certain neighborhoods when home in New York City (the ones with schools and tourists)-not every actor chooses to handle this sort of fame the same way. Ansel seems to regard his new normal as a seasoned swimmer does a riptide. Fight it and it'll wear you down until you drown. But go with the flow (or rather, take lots of pictures and be the nicest guy ever) and the universe will respect your chillness.

By way of a place-specific example, here's something that happened in Amsterdam earlier this week. Ansel meets a girl, and they make a plan to grab waffles. By the time they're finishing up, a mob of fans and photographers has gathered out front. Ansel's idea is to head outside, take pictures with every last fan, and then kindly ask them to disperse. It's become his standing operating procedure, and it works today, too. He and the girl hop in a cab, but after a block or two, Ansel notices a photographer following them: "I'm pretty good with faces, and I recognize him from last year, when he was hanging around the shoot. And so I ask the driver to pull over, and I get out of the car and go up to the guy and say, 'Hey, man, how have you been? Listen, I know you have a job to do, but I'm with this girl, and we're on this date, and we're just trying to go to some park to hang out some more, and I don't think we're gonna be able to do that if you follow us.' I was basically saying, Can you find it in your heart not to



cockblock me? And you know what? He got on his scooter and turned around."

Ansel's theory of fame is that people are filled with infinite reasonableness if you're willing to appeal to them that way. Be open, give a little, smile a lot. His is a social fluency not uncommon in some kids raised in New York City to parents with fancy friends. (Ansel's father is fashion photographer Arthur Elgort; his mother is opera director Grethe Holby.) Through the runoff of cocktail parties, a child can emerge as a young adult who knows how to find a suit that fits and make a casting director giggle. For Ansel, that confidence and highidle charm are qualities that glow beneath the skin of his movie characters-even those who aren't confident and charming. There's a self-possession that seems primed to serve dividends for a 20-year-old who hopes he's "acting till I'm 80." (Or at least Ansøloing; he really does seem to weight his music-

and movie-making as equal priorities.) Of course, by then it'll be interesting to see how his give-of-himself approach to fame is holding up. For that matter, how will it have fared by the time he's back in town for next year's Amsterdam Dance Event? The year ahead includes the release of Insurgent (a sequel to another of his 2014 movies, Divergent) and what he hopes will be the filming of "a big one, with one of the big guys, Scorsese or Spielberg or someone like that." By that point, maybe Ansel's convictions about fame will seem quainta vestige from that innocent phase of a fledgling career. Or maybe the theory will continue to work-an improbable solution to the shittiness of fans and photographers, a win for impervious idealism and smoothtalking 20-year-olds everywhere.

DANIEL RILEY is a GQ senior associate editor.

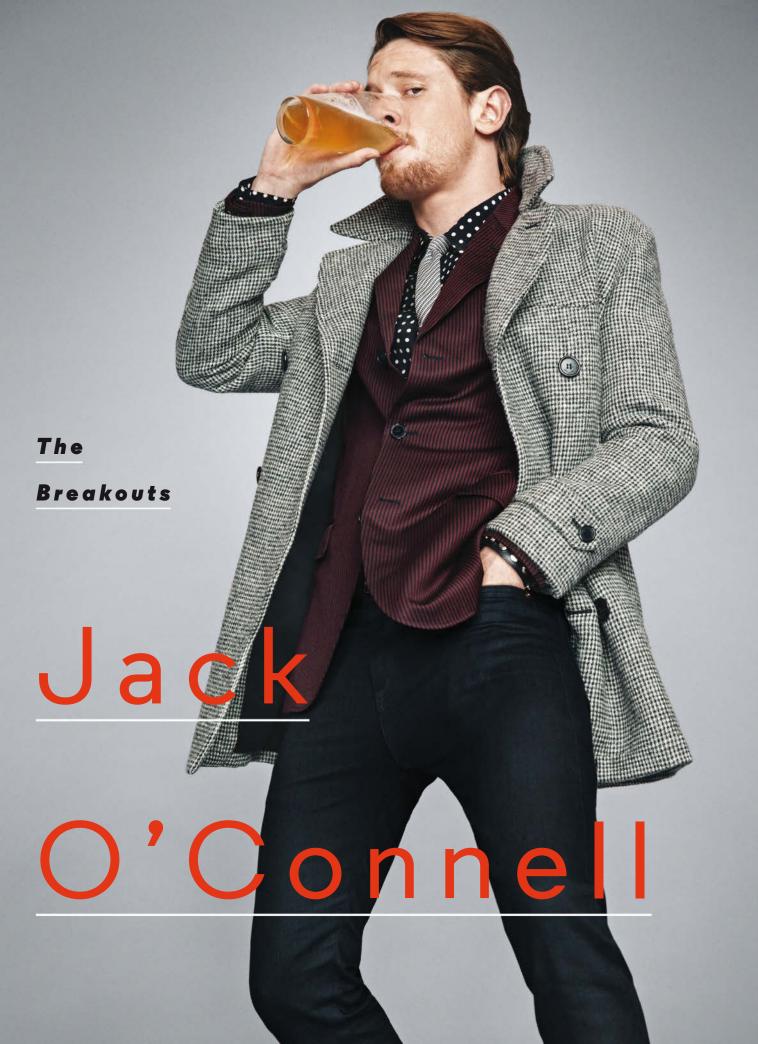
**Age: 24** Hometown: Derby, England When we first saw him: Playing a lovable rascal on Skins and a youthful skinhead in This Is England. When we knew he was good: In this summer's British prison stunner Starred Up, when he traded young mischiefmakers for a redeemable brute. Number of insane-

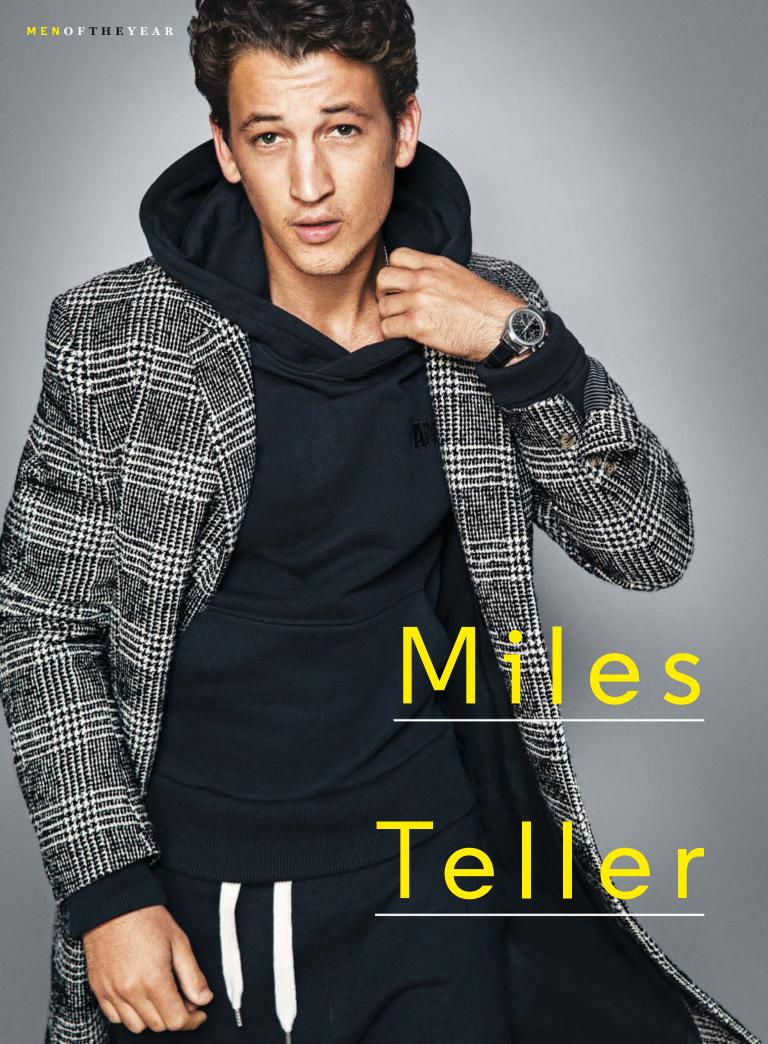
training-regimen movies in a row: Four. Swordplay for 300: Rise of an Empire, prisonfloor push-ups for Starred Up, sprinting through a re-created Belfast for retro thriller '71. and three months of eating as few as 800 calories a day to play reallife POW Louis Zamperini in this month's Unbroken. ("But that's the challenge, innit? I had to. Otherwise it'd cost 'em a fortune in CGI.") **Number of** rumors about his dating life batted away: One. Cara Delevingne? He's not talking. **Understatement** of the year: On Unbroken director Angelina Jolie: "She's quite a phenomenon, actually." Best advice to his younger self:

"'Have a few more early nights, Jack, lad.' I wasn't missing out on

much, it turns out." -SAM SCHUBE









**AMI** 

Matthiussi has

label in town.

OPPOSITE PAGE

sweatpants \$250

coat \$860 hoodie \$255

watch TAG Heuer

THIS PAGE

jacket \$780

shirt \$315 pants \$305

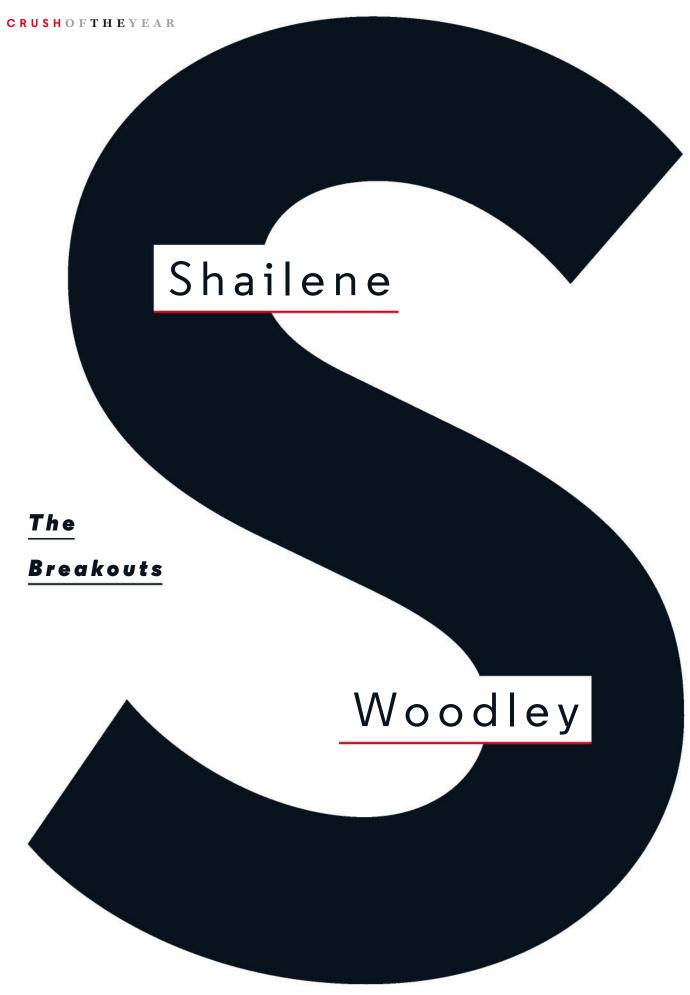
sneakers

Common Projects bracelet Le Gramme at MrPorter.com

grooming by johnny

productions-west.

where to buy it?





### IT'S THE END OF SOMETHING. Seriously.

When we get to the park, I say, "Sun or no sun?" and she says, "Sun, absolutely." So we drag a table out of the shade and sit at it. It's hardly even a park, really. Just a brave little hill of grass next to Manhattan's West Side Highway, bathed in the sounds of downshifting garbage trucks. On the far side, we can see the boutiqued-up railroad track known as the High Line. Of course she picked sun. Sun is an essential element of her soul. She is part sunlight, part rainbow, part child actor, part TED talk, part ICM agent. This is the Shailene Woodley who told a reporter she enjoys sunbathing naked to "give my vagina a little vitamin D." People went nuts about that; it topped the lists of crazy shit that Shailene Woodley said that seemed to proliferate as 2014 went on.

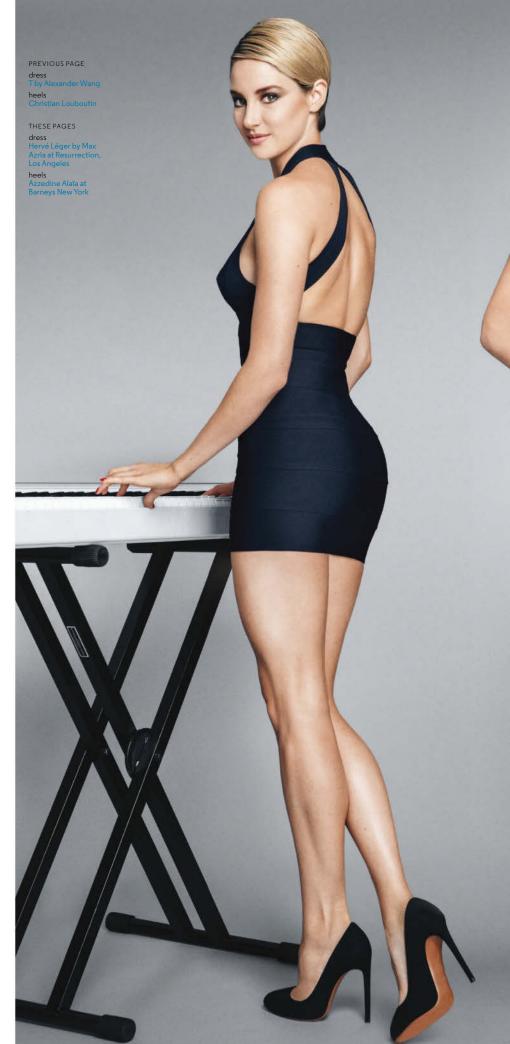
She collapses into her chair. She is jetlagged; she arrived last night from Paris. She's been in Europe for three weeks, mostly doing Airbnb. She finished filming *Insurgent*, the second installment of the *Divergent* series, a month ago, and took off. She says it's part of the way she maintains a healthy relationship with Hollywood.

"That's the thing about me in this industry," she says. "I do my thing and then I'm like, 'Peace! See you later! I'm going to Europe, where I'm gonna do my own thing!' You know? So I don't really interact."

Because I don't know if you know about it, but Shailene Woodley is a free spirit. She is 23 years old and a multi-millionaire, and she will tell you straight away that she doesn't have a TV. She doesn't have a TV because she doesn't have a house, an apartment, or any permanent-type living arrangement. She has a ten-year-old Prius with 165,000 miles on it. She has a few boxes of clothes labeled "summer" and "winter" that she packs in a suitcase. There's also a plastic tub that holds her Vitamix for smoothies and a Crock-Pot for her mushroom tea—and she ships that plastic tub wherever she goes.

"I have a cell phone now, but I didn't have one for nine months," she says.

It's not really a blasting sun, anyway. It's a syrupy mid-autumn sun that makes you nostalgic for the very moment you're in, even before it passes. Right now Shailene is only thirty-seven minutes post-sexy-*GQ*-photo-shoot, and her face still bears the remnants of high-test makeup. She cocks her head to collect *(continued on page 263)* 









WHEN I SEE Dave Chappelle for the first time, at the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills, he looks damn happy. Like, shit-eating-grin\* happy. Like, irrepressible-little-kid happy. The way Dave is today—it's not what I was expecting. Right away, he starts talking to Siri on his iPhone like he's a pimp and she's a prostitute. "Call home," he says. She says, "Just to confirm, would you like to call home?" Dave says, "Yesbitch!-that's-what-I-said-bitch-don't-question-me!-call-home-bitch!"

He's also toting around a small, very loud portable speaker that is connected to his phone. And once in a while he'll just press play for a few seconds. The sudden blaring of A Tribe Called Quest makes the guests at the Beverly Hills Four Seasons—who are very Beverly Hills Four Seasons—y—instantly turn their heads to find Dave Chappelle's famous shit-eating grin. Not a single person is offended after they see that grin. In fact, that grin is how they recognize the now buff, Italian-suited Dave Chappelle. The grin hasn't changed.

Almost everything else has. Here's the Post-it-note version of the past decade of Dave Chappelle's career: Funnyman makes funny show, funny show makes funnyman famous, funnyman walks away from funny show and a serious amount of cash, funnyman disappears. For a while, about seven years, we heard little to nothing. We knew he lived on a farm in Yellow Springs, Ohio—a town of 3,500 people. And that he didn't want to talk to the media. Dave Chappelle seemed to be, like a suede umbrella, an instrument whose very design and makeup is its biggest conflict-the funniest guy in the room who can't stand to be looked at. About three years ago, he began to appear, impromptu, more

frequently for sets at comedy clubs. Then a Twitter account appeared that was actually run by Dave until an impostor took it over. Chris Rock fueled rumors that they would start touring together, which never happened. But it wasn't until the announcement this spring that Dave would play five—no, eight! no...ten!—shows at Radio City Music Hall that people began to think seeing Dave Chappelle be funny might be part of their lives again.

Still, I didn't expect to see this: Dave Chappelle pulling pranks on a roomful of strangers in a fancy hotel and looking... completely at ease. Throughout our four days together, fans will walk up to Dave and say some of the nicest things you could say to a stranger: "You're a genius." "We miss you." That isn't surprising-Chappelle's Show once set the record for most DVD sales for a television series. What did surprise me was the genuine comfort and generosity he met these strangers with. He asked them more questions than they asked him. I was surprised when he rushed Norman Reedus, who was staying at the Four Seasons as well, to take a selfie. Or when we crashed the Walking Dead premiere the next night, went through a haunted house, and took yet more selfies with zombies. Watching him wreak havoc on L.A. for a few days, I started to think maybe we've had things all wrong about Dave Chappelle.

## You seem really, really happy sitting here in a big hotel around all these people.

I think that's probably my natural disposition. Obviously, in some situations or places, I'll be way more guarded. But I feel good this week. I had a nice week at

Malcolm X speech. And the last part was so intense. He was like, "The price of freedom is death!" Beeeep! I didn't even leave that dude a message. I just hung up the phone. Like, just listening to D'Angelo's answering machine puts you on the no-fly list, it's so militant. When a guy goes away like that, they might not come back for any number of reasons. Yesterday I was watching this YouTube video, and it's William F. Buckley interviewing Muhammad Ali when Ali was banned from boxing. And one of the guys on the panel asks Ali, "Do you miss being the heavyweight champion of the world?" Ali is like, "What makes you think I'm not still the champ? I'm still the champ." The guy replied, "Wait, no, no, no-that's not what I mean. Do you miss boxing and blah blah blah?" And Ali is like, "Nah, I don't miss boxing. As a matter of fact, I could call my sparring partner today. I could box all afternoon. I miss boxing for money." In other words, in his mind, just because he wasn't in the public eye, his title was no less legitimate. And his capabilities were no less legitimate. He looked at it like, "I'm just being separated from my livelihood. not what I love." So I look at a guy like D'Angelo and I'm like, I'm sure he's still making music. It's just a matter of whether or not he wants to share that with us or not.

### Do you look at a guy like Dave Chappelle like that?

I know for a fact I'm like that. I mean, I've been out here doing comedy the whole time. But if certain people don't see you, it's not that you don't

"I've been out here doing comedy the whole time. Sometimes I'll do shit and I'll be like, 'Oh, that's so great. I would love to share this.' And then I can talk myself out of it for any number of reasons."

home. I've been on the road nine out of the last twelve months this year, which was the most I've done in years, so I'm more accustomed to being around people. You know, for a while, I was kind of sequestered. Well, *sequestered* is not the right word. It was more like Superman's self-imposed exile.

## I know you used to live near D'Angelo. Do you think his album will ever come out?

I'd *like* to think so. I haven't talked to him personally in a while, but the last time I called him, he had a long outgoing message on his machine. It was like a

exist, it's just that they haven't seen you. Sometimes I'll do shit and I'll be like, "Oh, that's so great." And I'll think, "I would love to share this." And then I can talk myself out of it for any number of reasons.

## What's the main reason you talk yourself out of it?

Mostly it has to do with just disrupting what my life is now. I have a very good life, a high quality of life. I have both money and time. No one has that.

My kids are older now, so when I make decisions within the public eye, it

<sup>\*</sup>Since the emoji gods have yet to create a symbol for "shit-eating grin that an especially troublemaking 8-year-old you can't help but love anyway would make," we are using an asterisk to indicate when it happens.



affects more than just me. This year I've been way more generous with my time, as far as what I'm willing to share. And it's been great. People have been very supportive. They've *always* been supportive. But it was good to reaffirm that I actually did have a rapport with the audience and people are still interested. Like when my agent tells me I sold out shows in Lincoln, Nebraska, I don't take that for granted.

#### What is it that made you not talk yourself out of it this year? Why do ten shows at Radio City?

That's a good question. I have a showbusiness bucket list. There's just certain things that every entertainer always dreamed of doing. When I was 19, I used to walk up Sixth Avenue and look at the marquee of Radio City. I'd see the lines outside. I'd be like, "Man, I just want to... Radio City!" So then, last year, when I started going on the road, it was just because I wanted to be on the road, at first. There's something cathartic about touringit feels good to just engage people that way. But then, as it was progressing, I was like, "Well, this should all go somewhere. Where am I going with this?" It just so happened the venue was open during the same time frame I was willing to play. The venue opened up for an astounding ten days. And I said, "Well, can we do all ten? You know, can I even do that business? I haven't played New York in so long." I didn't want to pass up on the opportunity.

#### What's another thing on that bucket list?

For one year, I want to do this thing where I guest-star on as many television shows as I possibly can. I love television. The fact that television ultimately made me famous was very gratifying for me. Chris Tucker did it in movies, and Chris Rock did it from his stand-up, which was very impressive. But you know, the thing that people most will remember me for is *Chappelle's Show*. If I were to never do anything else, that show would be a culmination of what was a very long and tedious process of me learning how to be in the television business.

## So if you could choose, what shows would you quest-star on?

I'd be a zombie in *The Walking Dead*. A corpse on *CSI*. I'd be the first black guy to fuck Olivia Pope on *Scandal*....

#### I always joke with my friends that black women would hate *Scandal* if the president were black and his mistress were white.

That shit would be hilarious! It'd be named *Extreme Scandal*.

#### Do you watch a lot of television?

I started being the new television viewer, where I come in late to a series and just binge-watch it online. And I love it, because sometimes the anticipation, waiting from week to week, is too much. I binge-watched the first two seasons of *The Walking Dead* that way. I probably didn't get into *Breaking Bad* until, like, the third season. I watched *The Wire* retroactively, too.

#### Idris Elba once said he used to sell weed at the New York comedy club Carolines. That can't be true, right?

Oh, okay. So he used to work at Carolines. During that era of my life, there's a high possibility that I bought reefer from Idris. Fast-forward to when I was doing Chappelle's Show. Idris would come to the set sometimes. Not the set where we'd be filming sketches, but the set when we did the live portion of the show and we showed the audience sketches. It used to be a real hot ticket in New York. There's a lot of women who used to work on the show...all very professional, with the single exception when Idris would come around. It doesn't matter how big a star would be on the show, when he came around, women would just lose their goddamn minds.

On Chappelle's Show, you came into contact with a lot of guys who later became famous. Like Kanye. One of his first TV performances was on Chappelle's Show?

And then afterwards, when I say good night, I looked up. Kanye is actually onstage, standing there with a microphone in his hand. I was like, "This is nuts."

## He wasn't the only special guest at Radio City....

Busta Rhymes was onstage. He was like, "You know, I've wanted to play here my whole life. I've never heard my music with an orchestra before." My mother started crying. I got offstage, she goes, "I really like that Busta Rhymes." You know, she's 76. It was just funny to hear her say that.

## In a GQ interview earlier this year, Kanye compared being a celebrity—the invasion of privacy, dealing with paparazzi—to the civil rights struggle.

Well, okay now, I don't know about that. But I do see a common denominator in the sense that the issue of privacy in general is everyone's issue. And his version of that is very extreme. I'm a celebrity in some people's eyes, but not to the extent he is. I saw on Yahoo that his wife got tackled in Paris. Like, just crazy shit. I think that he's right in the sense that scrutiny in and of itself is oppressive. If someone sits there and stares at you while you eat, you won't even eat the way you normally do, because it'll make you so uncomfortable. If I look at my dog when he's eating, he will look at me like, "Dave, I will bite you. What are you looking at? I'm trying to eat." It's something that dehumanizes a person, being on display like that. So is it like the civil rights movement? Not quite. The metrics are a

"Some people have great experiences in show business.

We'll say, for lack of a better term, I had an allergic reaction to some of the things that I was going through."

Yeah! And no one was more surprised than me when he did the surprise performance during my Radio City show. It was weird. You know what he said after the fact, which I thought was funny? He said, "Why wasn't I on the show in the first place? Like, why wasn't I booked?" So I don't know what happened via the machinery. It also could be that Kanye's like a girl that's so pretty, nobody asks her to the dance. You know what I mean? I knew the day before that he was coming to see the show. Then, as I was walking onstage, right before I went on, Kanye was there and was like, "Yo, can I rock with y'all?" And I thought he meant in generallike, "Yeah, man, always! We all cool for life! Blah blah blah." Talking all that shit.

little wrong to make that comparison. But it is a civil rights issue, in a sense. Because how is he supposed to live his life? It's like someone putting their ear to your butt and being like, "Ew, you farted!" Stop listening to my asshole!

I know this is the exact opposite of more privacy, but what would the world have to do for you to get active on Twitter or Instagram? Because that'd be hilarious. I have a pretty dope selfie gallery.\*

#### Do you really?

Kanye, Kim, Jay and Beyoncé. Jessica Alba. There's a great picture from Radio City of me, Chris Rock, and Aziz. Selfies are my shit. I love taking selfies.... Rob Ford.



#### Holy shit. Rob Ford?

Seriously, you can Google it. I was in Toronto for a few shows, and they told me I couldn't smoke onstage. And I was like, "Well, can't you just waive the rule tonight?" And they're like, "It's a citywide ordinance." So I got up the next morning and went to the mayor's office. This is before all that shit about him came out.

#### What happened? You actually met him?

I was like, "Is the mayor in? Could you tell him Dave Chappelle is here to see him?" He was in a meeting. I said, "I'll wait for a few minutes." So I just walked around his office. The walls were lined with all these disparaging political cartoons. And I asked somebody, "What is this?" They're like, "He thinks that motivates him." I thought that was an interesting character nuance. I had never seen him before, but he looked like Chris Farley in the pictures. He walked in and was like, "What can I do for you?" And I told him, "These ordinances exist in the United States, but they're often waived in contexts of performance, because it's an integral part of what I do." He replied, "That's it?" "That's it," I said. Then he told me, "I'm sorry, I can't help you. The laws of Toronto are the same for everybody. We appreciate you coming, we're glad you're here, but we can't change the law because it disagrees with you." He really

gave me this whole speech. I should have said, "You didn't let me finish: 'smoke crack rocks onstage!'" Maybe a year after that was his first scandal.

#### Fame can be a tough thing.

Some people have great experiences in show business. We'll say, for lack of a better term, I had an allergic reaction to some of the things that I was going through.

I've always put the ability to handle celebritydom on a spectrum—some are more allergic than others. On one end of the spectrum, you have Beyoncé, who's incredible at being famous...

She's built up an immunity.

## Right. But on the other end, you have someone like Lauryn Hill, who was loved, critically acclaimed, and has stated that fame was the cause of most of her troubles.

It's funny you say those two, because I watched a few minutes of *On the Run* [the HBO concert film with Beyoncé and Jay Z] the other night. And Beyoncé sang "Ex-Factor," which is from *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*. Lauryn's in some kind of weird legal position. I don't even know if she's allowed to sing all of her catalog. It was beautiful the way Beyoncé sang the song, but it made

me wince a little bit. It's like when I see someone steal a joke from me: I really would have liked to tell that one myself! And I also think that women in show business-and this is a sweeping generalization-they have a very different existence than men. Paparazzi chase 'em a little harder. The critics, I think, are a little meaner. I mean, look at Britney Spears, like, having a kid. She's a new mom, and I don't know if you have kids or not, but it's a very sensitive time in a woman's life when they're a new mom. And the way the media was criticizing her mothering, I was like, That shit is ice-cold. 'Cause even if you're super-strong, that shit will fuck with you. Whereas if they were like, "Dave Chappelle's a bad father," I'd be like, "So what?"

## So what was it like to be a full-time dad, a stay-at-home dad?

I was trying to explain to my kids the other day how different my 40 was to my dad's 40. I skateboard sometimes, play video games, buy motorcycles. I ride bikes now. Like, man, I'm a real action-packed 40-year-old dad, like, relative to what a 40-year-old was like when we were growing up.

Also, I have this thing where I meet people whose kids are, like, superhuman perfect: "She speaks three languages now, blah blah." (continued on page 266)





from danger. In interviews like this one, he has sat patiently and explained that if there's anything interesting about Steve Carell, Steve Carell is unaware of what that thing may be.

"I never thought of myself as funny," he says, in an incantation that also serves as a warning. "I don't feel like I'm great at cocktail conversations. I don't hold court." He is kind and decent and very, very square, and in the perverse logic of things, this has led to an entire genre of amateur psychology speculating about what Steve Carell has to hide.

He knows this. He is ready for this.

"I think with anyone who seems to be content and well-adjusted, which I think I am, there's a need to find a darkness or a wound. Judd Apatow—I'm gonna misquote him—but he spoke to that in regards to me: that he could never seem to find my wound. So either I don't have one, or I was really stealthy in hiding it from him."

You know the answer to that.

"I do."

Are you prepared to share that answer? "No!"

I wish I could say this was the sole extent of our conversation on this subject-that we spent the rest of our time together, two days in Los Angeles, talking about things Steve Carell actually enjoys talking about. But then there is *Foxcatcher*. It is nearly always wrong to think that the key to an actor can be found in what he does on-screen. But what Carell does with this film is, well, dark. He displays evidence of a wound. Directed by Bennett Miller and co-starring Channing Tatum and Mark Ruffalo, Foxcatcher is based on the awful true story of John du Pont, the chemical-fortune heir who, in 1996, shot an Olympic wrestler on the grounds of his family's Pennsylvania estate and so became one of the richest men in American history to go to prison for murder. Carell-going against every type he's ever played—portrays du Pont, whose patronage and support of the wrestlers Mark and Dave Schultz eventually turned to something horrifying.

Miller's film is about a fascination with violence, how it underpins everything from wealth to sports-how it lurks like radiation in the soil. Carell's du Pont is an American tragedy passing for an American success story: patrician, alien, narcissistic, and fascinated in some deep way with the capacity to inflict pain. He is unknowable, maybe even to himself, and certainly to those around him. It's a sinister and controlled and astonishing performance, the kind that seems likely to earn Carell an Oscar nomination, if not an actual Oscar. It's also the kind of performance that will only make people continue to question what is really going on with Steve Carellwhat dark, unknowable thing lies beneath whatever it is we think we know about him. "If you talk to anybody, among the first things you'll hear is: 'Steve Carell is the nicest guy in the world,'" Bennett Miller says over the phone one day, trying to explain why he cast one of America's most beloved men as a murderer. "And he is. But he is also a deadly serious person, with quite a bit about him that is not for public consumption. And as an actor, I don't think he was ever given an opportunity to fully reveal his capabilities of exhibiting these more disturbing qualities. And it made sense to me, because that's the arc of the character. He goes from something that's goofy to something that's terrifying."

On the Foxcatcher set, Carell and his co-stars were not quite always in character, but never quite out of it, either; Carell would find himself at the airport, going home on the weekends, trying to shake off du Pont's weird halting rhythms, the strange, lifeless way that he carried himself. "I just felt cold that entire time," Carell says. Even now he doesn't really know how to talk about what went on there. "I feel like I went to Pittsburgh and three months later I came back," he says.

He'd rather talk about his children, or the daily bike rides he takes, or how he's spent the majority of the past year not working, just being a househusband. "I've found I'm very good at doing nothing," he says happily. "I don't want to quit. I don't feel like retiring. But it's just easy for me to not work. It's nice to be able to help out at home, with my wife and kids."

He is aware of how this sounds, will even make jokes at his own expense about it, like the time he went on *Conan* and said, "I don't really think I'm that nice. I think I'm probably just a sociopath who understands that niceness sells."

"It just gets boring saying *nice* things all the time," he admits. "And you run the risk of people calling bullshit on you and saying, 'Okay, Mr. Aw Shucks, who are you really? Like, Jesus! Enough of that line!' But the thing is, it's legitimate. It's not an act."

In fact, he says, looking at his phone, startled by the time, "I have to pick up my son at two."

Okay. We'll finish up.

His voice gets big and hearty, like a game-show host's: "Because I am such a *wonderful dad...* And it's real. I do actually have kids."

A grin spreads across his face.

"What if you found out that I'm not a parent? Never had children."

You just walk out the back door and then cruise by—

6

"In my Bugatti."

Yeah, exactly.

He laughs again. "'Sucker!'"

ZACH BARON is GQ's staff writer.

## Keep Al Weird

"Weird Al" Yankovic makes

brilliant art—specifically, someone else's art, in the form of a catchy pop song made brilliant by his spoofing. And this year the artist was finally recognized for his, well, brilliantness. The imposter has become the master

WEIRD AL HAS BEEN

with us for thirty-one years. THIRTY-ONE YEARS. (That's his career's age, by the way, not his.) His self-titled debut album was released in 1983. Do you know who else was big in 1983? Toto. Dexys Midnight Runners. Maybe you've seen those guys from time to time on a Best of the '80s compilation. Weird Al, on the other hand, has outlived entire species of plants and animals. (R.I.P., Japanese river otter. You will be missed.)
Actually, outlived isn't even the right word—the dude's downright thrived.

No decade since has passed without his albums on the charts; there's even intergenerational discord over which Weird Al album is the best. He has a theory on this: "If you do a random survey and ask people, 'What's your favorite Weird Al album?' they always say whatever album happened to come out when they were 12 years old," he surmises. "A certain chemical gets secreted into your brain at that particular age that makes you appreciate me."

In that case, serious hat tip to all current 12-year-olds: This year's album, *Mandatory Fun*, hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200 this summer. It had been five decades since a comedy album debuted in the top spot. He says with a big smile: "I know it's just a number, but it's a *really good* number."—LAUREN BANS









**TILDA SWINTON** picks me up at the airport. Yup.

From the plane—thirteen hours out of New York, five of them spent delayed, trying to sleep on a bench and contemplating the grim reality of being *late* to meet Tilda Swinton—Scotland is all low, misty white clouds and moss-colored hills. We land in Inverness, in the Highlands, process through the doors, and...

"Zach, you're *here*," she says in the tiny terminal, hugging me as if we've met a thousand times before, though our actual count—in this life, anyway; I guess with Tilda Swinton you never know—is zero. She smells like wildflowers and wood smoke. Her sweater is chunky and soft. Her profile is the kind of thing you need to work up to looking at directly.

I fidget, still tight from the plane.
"Everything goes really slowly now," she

says, patting my back, giving me permission to relax. "You're in Scotland now."

RIGHT AROUND HERE, in a normal magazine story, the two of us would have a conversation that just so happened to fill in some tidy facts about Tilda Swinton's year: Her disproportionately memorable two-scene turn in Wes Anderson's wondrous *Grand Budapest Hotel* as Madame Céline Villeneuve Desgoffe und Taxis, the sexpot

octogenarian expertly serviced by Ralph Fiennes. Her bucktoothed and wildly sinister Minister Mason, a comic-horror masterpiece of a performance, in Bong Joon-ho's *Snowpiercer*. And perhaps the quintessential Tilda Swinton role, one that Jim Jarmusch wrote for her, as Eve, the centuries-old vampire in *Only Lovers Left Alive*, who uses her infinite time on earth to read lots of books and hang out with metal musicians and an undead Christopher Marlowe, just like actual Tilda Swinton would if she had the opportunity.

She's been acting for nearly three decades and has won an Oscar, yet it always seemed like she was never quite available to us: It was somehow easy to know who she was without knowing exactly what she'd done. Until this year, anyway.

Three singular, remarkable turns in three singular, remarkable movies—a lot to discuss. But over the ensuing not-quite-twenty-four hours that I spend in her company, the only time I see Tilda Swinton's eyes—which are, let's put these words in italics, *blue*, except when they're *green*—cloud over with boredom is when we talk about movies she's acted in.

Could *you* handle seeing Tilda Swinton's eyes cloud over with boredom?

I couldn't.

OUR PLAN TODAY IS THIS: "We're going to go to Loch Ness." She leads me to her car, a green Skoda (what is a Skoda? It is the car Tilda Swinton drives) with four identical dogs in the hatchback. Tilda Swinton drives fast through the Scottish Highlands: deep green, hay bales on the side of the road, hay bales on the backs of trucks.

I ask her where we are exactly. She starts drawing a map of Scotland, eerily precise, on the windshield with her finger, driving while nonchalantly sketching on the glass in front of her. "This is Scotland. We're going towards Inverness. This is the very top of Scotland—it goes down like that, and then it comes out like that, and it goes down like that. So you landed, and where we live, Nairn, is a village along the coast. So you and I are driving along

this way," she says, tracing her invisible map from right to left, me gripping the armrest as she neatly evades oncoming traffic.

The we above is the we she almost always uses when telling stories: It means her but also Sandro Kopp, her painter partner of the past decade or so; and sometimes also John Byrne, the father of her 17-year-old twins; and almost always the twins, Xavier and Honor. Also her springer spaniels, Rosy, Dora, Louis, and Dot. Her love life, she explains, is not the polyamorous sin marathon that appears in the tabloids—there are two men in her life, Byrne, who now lives elsewhere, and Kopp, with whom she shares a home, an arrangement she has in common with millions of other people—but neither is it boring.

The road is becoming increasingly narrow and untrafficked, then ends entirely as she swings the Skoda to the right and parks. "How are you for warmth?" she asks, winding a scarf around her neck. Golden leaves swirl in the path ahead. We could be advancing on Narnia. The forest is a quilt of rust-colored ferns, mossy branches overhead, the dogs hurling themselves in and out of the brush.

"I must say, I really love living here," she says as the Highland air rushes into my lungs, as disorienting and heady as nitrous oxide. To walk with Tilda Swinton in a forest is to feel like a member of a royal guard. "I love cities for what they do. But once you live in a place like this, you kind of lose your way in a city."

Her hair is blonde, with traces of red. I feel about 100,000 miles away from anything familiar. We turn left, start shuffling down a hill, and then water comes into view, the dogs splashing in ahead of us. *Is this Loch Ness?* 

"This is *baby* Loch Ness," she says. "The appendix, or the small intestine."

There is a red sailboat, moored, and a white sailboat, moored, and a majestic woodpile emerging out of the water.

Her 89-year-old father, she's saying, has only one leg. Major-General Sir John Swinton, the latest in a long and decorated line of soldiers, a hero of World War II,

• Tilda Swinton's 2014: from left, Madame D. in The Grand Budapest Hotel; Eve in Only Lovers Left Alive; Minister Mason in Snowpiercer.









from which he emerged short one limb. Another ancestor, Alan Archibald Campbell-Swinton, was a famous scientist: "There are some very zealous admirers of my great-great-uncle who want him to be instated as the true inventor of the cathode-ray tube for television." These are the two Swinton family traditions, she says, sighing: the television and the tank.

I ask her if she feels an affinity for the soldiers over the scientists, or vice versa.

"I spent a lot of time thinking that I was some kind of foundling," Tilda Swinton says, answering a better question than the one I asked. "That I had been a changeling, that I had been found under a bush somewhere, and that I couldn't possibly be kin—but the more I live, the more I feel absolutely like I come out of my family. I'm a sort of strange natural progression."

DOWN THE ROAD is an old restaurant in a low white cottage, and she parks the Skoda in the lot facing the loch—the real Loch Ness, vast and cold looking, gray hills rising around, water washing over the pebbles on the beach.

"You're going to stay here, and you're going to have a little snooze."

For a moment I think Tilda Swinton is commanding me to take a nap in her car.

Do I want to take a nap in Tilda Swinton's car?

But she's talking to the dogs.

They seat us at a wooden table in the back, beside a porthole window that looks out onto the loch, and Tilda Swinton instructs me to scan periodically for the monster. We order tons of food—mussels, fish and chips, a prawn-crab-and-sweet-

chile cocktail, two birch beers, two coffees. Also, she tells the waitress, my heart filling with dread: haggis.

"Because Zach's never had any, and he has to."

I ask my first and nearly only proper question of the day. Actually, it's not that proper.

You once said if you hadn't become an actress, you would've become a professional gambler....

"Well, I was a professional gambler. When I lived in London, there were a couple of years when I didn't really earn money doing anything else. I mean, I did other things, like I made work, and I was working with Derek Jarman at the time, but the way I made money was putting money on horses."

What did you know about horses to successfully bet on them?

"My grandfather had an old gardener called Bert Matheson,

and he taught me how to pick winners, and it kind of works! It's very strange. I mean, it doesn't always work, of course. It's got something to do with the form, and there's a certain amount of knowledge about particular horses, but it really is not that. It's to do with, um, just looking at the horses in the ring and asking whether they're gonna win or not! Basically, I mean."

One wager—one horse, named Devilry, running one race—"kept us for nearly a year," Tilda Swinton says.

#### THE WAITRESS ARRIVES AGAIN.

"Haggis?"

"Haggis!" Tilda Swinton says delightedly. "Now, don't look frightened."

I am frightened. It's crunchy on the outside, mysterious and warm and salty on the inside—it tastes like something you might eat and wake up from ten hours later, wearing chain mail, riding a stallion. I manage a couple of bites, and Tilda Swinton manages the rest of it. She removes her coffee mug from its saucer and cradles it in her lap as we talk.

For years, she's saying, she has been telling people that she isn't an actress. But finally, over these past few months, as movie after movie featuring Tilda Swinton emerged in theaters, she began considering just admitting it: "I feel a bit embarrassed by saying I'm not an actress."

Still, she doesn't think of what she does as acting, exactly. "For a lot actors, there's a sort of code of honor around playing something other than yourself, which I just don't have. I love feeling like I'm—I won't even say acting out, but performing in some

deep seam of my consciousness, or my family's consciousness, or my past. That's really amusing to me."

Which is to say: When you see Tilda Swinton on-screen, even as an angel or a witch or a future fascist, odds are the person you're actually seeing is Tilda Swinton, the human across the table from me at this very moment. There have been exceptions: the murderous general counsel of 2007's *Michael Clayton*, say, for which she won an Oscar. "I remember someone asked me, 'What's the most challenging thing you ever did?' And I said, quite honestly, 'Playing a corporate lawyer was really a stretch.'" But by and large, Tilda Swinton performs Tilda Swinton.

For instance: Jarmusch's Only Lovers Left Alive, a film about living forever, which she shot two years ago while watching her mother die. She would work during the week and then come home to care for her on weekends. "Old age is really tough," she says. "Because let's face it, when people are younger, you have the luxury of saying it's a tragedy, they should have died later, you know, they could have had another forty years. But I remember sitting beside my mother for weeks thinking, What mortality police can I call? We're really supposed to put up with this?

"It's one of the reasons that film was is—so tender for me. Because every time I came off the set, Sandro would be in the wings trying to find another plane from a small airport that would be leaving on Friday night."

And so the Tilda Swinton you see on-screen in *Only Lovers Left Alive*, that languor in living, that person savoring an eternity: that really is a person trying to savor an eternity. And the sadness in the film is her sadness, too—at knowing it's not possible.

"MY TROPES ARE dogs and eggs,"
Tilda Swinton decides, scanning through
her photographs, trying to find one
particular egg shot—she has chickens in
her yard; they lay the most beautifully
colored eggs. "My children and my dogs
and my sweetheart, I'd have to say."
She turns to me: "What are your tropes?"

Mostly I take photos of my girlfriend, I say. "You can't have enough, you really can't," Tilda Swinton says.

I say it's a point of contention between us, actually, me always taking her photo. Sometimes the results are unflattering.

Tilda Swinton pauses her scroll, a look of concern on her face. "You mustn't show her the photographs!" she says. "They're for you, when you're away!"

And then: "Here we are. Look, I found it!" A photo of four eggs, each a different, distinct shade of white. DYING LIGHT IS particularly amazing on her face. She looks like a painting. She actually said that to me herself, earlier: "I don't really look like people in films; I look like people in paintings."

We pass glowing farmhouses and spooky stands of trees. She's driving, talking about Snowpiercer, perhaps her highestprofile role of the year, playing a pig-nosed enforcer on a dystopian train carrying the last survivors of a destroyed and frozen-over Earth. Captain America, Chris Evans, starred in it—there were bloody, elaborately choreographed action sequences, like a real blockbuster might have. But there were also pauses for incongruous sushi dinners and classrooms full of children in song; Swinton says she's pleased about how, "by the skin of our teeth," it remained the oddball film she and the cast and Bong Joon-ho set out to make, despite Harvey Weinstein's well-publicized and ultimately failed campaign to cut twenty minutes from it. It was weird, and people loved it. She was, she says, happy to see Harvey Weinstein proved wrong: "I think that's useful."

Ahead of us, just now taking shape in the twilight, is where she lives, the town of Nairn. "Here we are, coming into the great, great metropolis," Tilda Swinton says. A long greensward of grass appears to our right; in the summer, they show cattle, sheep, dogs here, she says. "I've always wanted to enter the salad-on-aplate competition."

Salad-on-a-plate?

"It's *salad!* On a *plate!* I think you have to grow the items. But then you have to present them nicely, too."

"What else happens here?" she asks, rhetorically. "Tractors get prizes for being particularly shiny."

We pull into her driveway, past a modest white gate, just down the road from the ocean. Her home is large, old, stately, some sort of flowering vines climbing the front. Pink dahlias line the garden, which is enormous and frequented by a tortoise named Slowly and a diminishing number of chickens. "We have a variety of predators," she says sadly. Her cabbages are huge, sculptural.

I ask her what the flowering vines are that cover her home, but darkness has fallen, the day has been long, and she can't remember their name. She promises to write me the moment she thinks of it, scribbling down my e-mail address. My hotel, a labyrinthine Scottish conference center plagued by a roaming bagpiper in a kilt, is just across the street.

We make loose plans to meet in the morning before my flight, plans I'm not convinced will transpire, but fifteen minutes later I get an e-mail. *(continued on page 267)* 

# The Man Who Saved America 16 Times

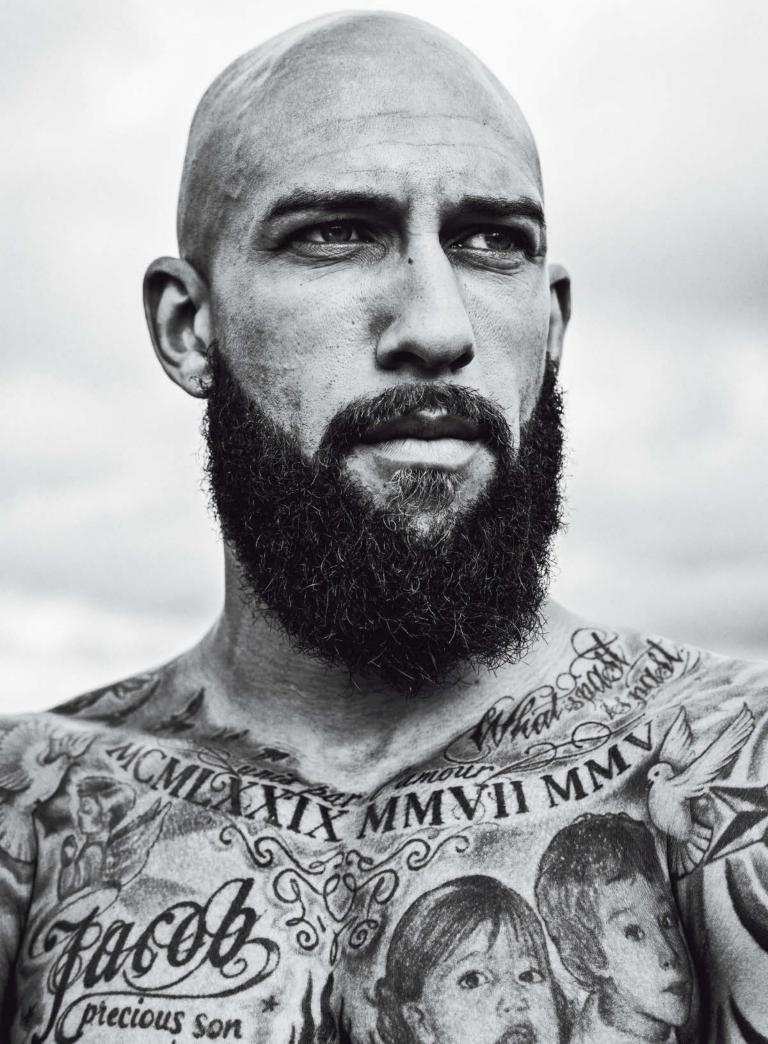
For three weeks this summer, Americans loved soccer almost as much as the Spanish, Brazilians, and Germans combined. And no American player made us love the game more than **Tim Howard**, the goalkeeper who set a World Cup record for saves. As in *most ever recorded* 

#### 💌 SEBASTIAN KIM

IN BRAZIL, they were numerous. The saves spurred chants in boardrooms and bars, and they propelled the U.S. to competitiveness (if not into contention). There were sixteen of them in Team USA's last game alone—enough for Tim Howard to both set a World Cup record and keep our national pride intact until the final triple whistle.

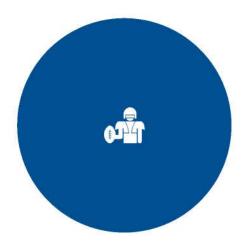
But for all the historic stops Howard made in that loss to Belgium, it was an operatic save in an earlier game that he remembers most vividly from his three weeks in South America. A powerful shot had just cometed past him, deflected off the post, and ended up on the foot of a Portuguese attacker, whose chip required a wrong-footed Howard to hurl his body backward and set the ball safely over the bar. "That play was a microcosm for goalkeeping," he says. "If the first ball goes in, it's totally my mistake. But because it didn't and I'm able to make an athletic recovery for the second shot, it looks like a brilliant save. And that's what people remember. All in one motion, that was the epitome of goalkeeping, the fine line."

For Americans, The Bearded One served as an easy entry point to the sport. So it surprised many of them when, at the height of his new fame, Howard took leave of his national-team duties and returned to England to focus on his day job at Everton F.C.—a resolute life of perpetual workouts ("My life is training"), sustained attentiveness to American sports ("Notre Dame football, Giants football, Knicks basketball"), and frequent trips to Memphis to see his kids ("The first place we go is a pizza parlor, easily the non-kids thing I miss most about America"). Will he return to the MLS like so many of his star American counterparts? Doubtful to Hell No. Howard's plan, though a little muddy still, seems to be this: Run out his contract with Everton (four more years), rejoin the American squad for the 2018 World Cup, and then hang up the spikes. Soccer players measure time in increments of World Cups, which is why the future ceases there. "Though I really am looking forward to just being in a pub, drinking beers and watching a World Cup with my friends," he says. "'Cause that just looked incredible."-DANIEL RILEY









#### IT'S NOW AN AMERICAN RITE OF

sports, with a protocol as ingrained as those governing the seventh-inning stretch and the Gatorade bath: The strapping young athlete gets the nod and, overwhelmed by the realization that he has arrived, turns to his significant other and plants a kiss. We saw this rite performed to a T on the evening of May 10, after the St. Louis Rams made Michael Sam the 249th overall pick in the NFL draft. Spontaneously/on cue, Sam burst into tears and then, like countless jocks before him, performed the kiss. It all seemed reassuringly familiar. Oh...wait. Scratch that: On account of the fact that the significant other on the receiving end of that kiss was a guy named Vito Cammisano, it was mind-blowing.

An NFL defensive end passionately kissing his boyfriend—had any of us ever seriously entertained that configuration of words, much less their realization on national TV?

He never wanted any of this, you know. He never envisioned himself as an activist or icon before he came out in February, and doesn't regard anything he's said or done in 2014 as heroic. It's not hard to see where he's coming from: He wants to be a football player who happens to be gay, not "Gay Football Player Michael Sam."

The deeper, and stranger, nature of Michael Sam's story is that when it began, he never envisioned himself as a football player, either-never even really wanted football itself. It wasn't dreams of glory or love of the game that brought him to the gridiron; football wasn't his pursuit. It was a means of flight, a getaway vehicle with which he escaped a home existence-in a small southeast Texas scab of a town called Hitchcock-that was nothing short of horrifying. He and his family-Sam was the seventh of eight children, and the youngest son-were known as "those damn Sams." His eldest sister died before he was even born, accidentally knocked off a dock and



drowned when she was 2. Sam was 5 when his dad left for good and when his teenage brother Russell was shot dead trying to break into a home. Three years later, he and his younger sister were the last to see his brother Julian before he walked out the front door and never returned. (Police term Julian a missing person; Sam believes he's dead.) The remaining brothers, Josh and Chris, were in and out of jail and routinely beat their youngest brother for failing to follow in their footsteps. Chris is currently serving thirty years for aggravated robbery.

Michael spent a portion of his elementary-school years living with his mother in a car. He then spent his high school and college years alienated from her; a Jehovah's Witness, she insisted that her son shun organized sports. Her

son insisted otherwise. This was Michael Sam: a boy so afraid of his own home that in summertime, he would walk out his front door before anyone else was awake and then keep walking...and walking, until the light began to fade and it was easier to disappear, unnoticed, to his room; a boy so lonely that he would mow the lawn of an elderly neighbor for free-just for the sake of the company it brought; a boy so determined to be taken on his own terms and not as "another damn Sam" that even at the age of 10, he'd offer his hand and introduce himself to adults as "Michael Alan Sam Jr.!"; a boy who knew that he was, somehow, different-and had it within him to nurture that difference; a boy whose athletic aspirations were so purely about getting away from, rather than moving

toward, something that when a coach suggested during his junior year of high school that he was talented enough to play Division I football, he asked, "What does Division I mean?" As Sam said of his past hardships in his coming-out ESPN interview, "Telling the world I'm gay is nothing compared to that."

The same can be said for the way Sam has handled the regard—or its lack—he was shown in the draft. In his last year as a Missouri Tiger, he was named Defensive Player of the Year in the Southeastern Conference—football's best. Ten players had previously won that award. Eight were first-round picks. The second-"lowest" went a hundred spots above him. And despite a solid preseason (eleven tackles, three sacks), Sam was cut from the Rams' final roster. The Dallas Cowboys placed him on the team's practice squad for the first seven weeks of the regular season but waived him just as this story was going to press.

As for that draft-night kiss, it goes without saying that it was iconic for what it signified. Even in real time, we were refracting it, rendering it, filtering it through some kind of Shepard Fairey app downloaded onto the American psyche after the 2008 election. But there's another, simpler reason that image seemedand remains-stuck in time, yet timeless. Joy. That's it, right there. Without fail, those who have played with and coached and loved Michael Sam speak of the joy this 24-year-old, 260-pound brick of a man carries and dishes out wherever he goes. When he's not on the field, he sings it. Constantly. And quite well (though his coaches at the University of Missouri found this amusing and irritating in equal measure). And because he can't stop.

He brings joy onto the field, too. Did you see his preseason game against the Browns? Fourth quarter, Johnny Manziel dropped back on third-and-twentyone and got...blindsided, sacked, with extreme prejudice, by Sam. Who served up-oh, HELL yes!-Manziel's sniveling "money fingers" sign, followed by his own signature rock-'em, sock-'em move. You could, in theory, call that a "distraction" (a mealy, meaningless fig leaf of a word to begin with, now spectacularly so in light of Aaron Hernandez, Ray Rice, Adrian Peterson, et al.). Or you could consider the dignity and gratitude Sam has shown this past year-despite dropping seventy spots on the CBS draft board the instant he came out, despite his own father telling The New York Times that the thought of his son being gay turned his stomach and would probably leave former NFL great Deacon Jones "turning over in his grave"—and the manhood that it has required, and call it, simply: joy.

You often downplay your coming out as no big deal, as if context doesn't matter—as if the NFL isn't considered the ultimate measure of American masculinity. Do you really not understand why people consider you heroic and historic?

I know for a fact I'm not the first...

But you are. No other player has come out prior to retirement. You came out before the *draft*. You had everything to lose. If I had it my way, I never would have done it the way I did, never would have told it the way I did.

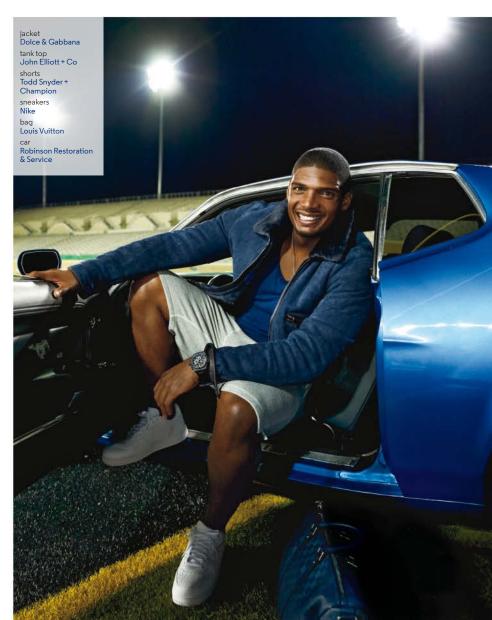
#### Really?

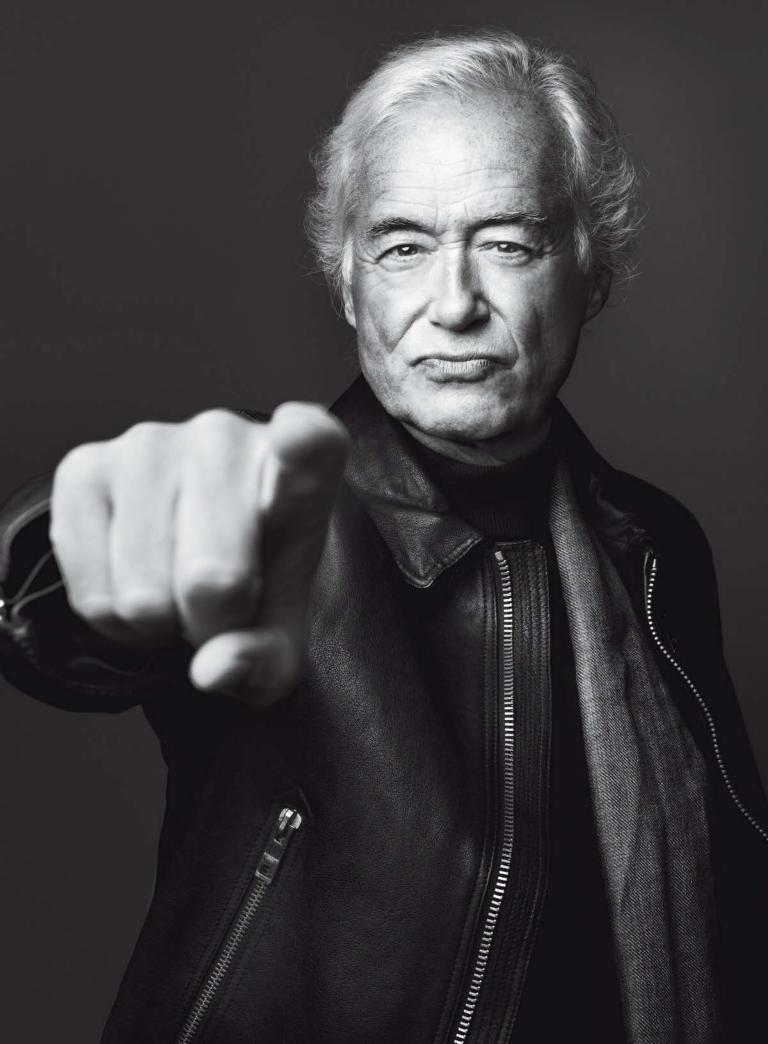
I would have done the same thing I did at Mizzou. Which was to tell my team and my coaches and leave it at that. But since I *did* tell my team, word got out.... People think the word didn't get out. It did. Or it did and it didn't. They kept it confined within our family. But the recruiters knew, and reporters

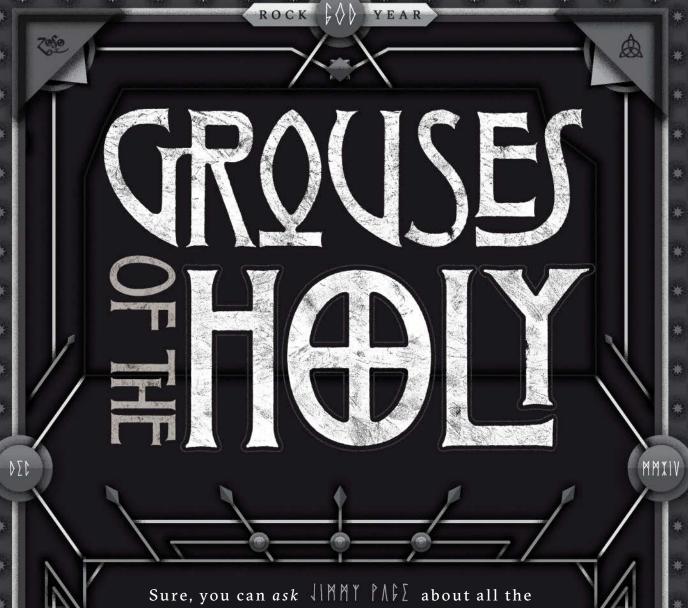
knew, and they talked to each other, and it got out. If I didn't have the year I did, nobody would have cared. But I did have that year. And a lot of people knew. Someone was gonna ask me, "I heard you told your team a secret..." Well, I was comfortable with who I was, and I wouldn't have denied it. And then I wouldn't have been able to control the story. But I have no regrets. Some people can argue that I had the potential to go higher in the draft. But I think everything happens for a reason. It looks good to see me in the position I'm in now, because I can show the world how good I am and rise up the ranks. I'm at the bottom now. I can rise up, show I'm a football player. Not anything else. Just a football player.

The fact that you're comfortable with yourself—don't take that for granted. You earned that.

I said I'd take everything that came at me, and I did. But did (continued on page 268)







Sure, you can ask IMMY PAGE about all the groupies and drugs and why Robert Plant seems like such a standoffish dick, but he might throw a television at you. (And then give an answer that's as awesome as it is unexpected.) IMMER (LOSTERMAN) sits down for a funny, combative, and unforgettable conversation with the only man who loves

Led Zeppelin more than he does

G Q & A

MARCO GROB







For a 70-year-old wizard, **Jimmy Page** looks fantastic. Fifteen years ago, he somehow appeared older than he does today. He might be aging in reverse,

the best remaining argument for anyone who still believes he sold his soul to the Devil.

We first meet at the Gore hotel, three minutes from Royal Albert Hall and not far from Page's home in Kensington, London. Founded in 1892, the Gore is a sober, erudite inn. (Our conversation takes place in a sitting room filled with multiple sets of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.) Dressed in black with white hair pulled back, Page is a paragon of restrained dignity. He's the architect of the most important hard-rock band to ever walk the earth, but he looks more like a man who's just finished ratifying the Articles of Confederation. And considering how long it's been since Led Zeppelin's dissolution—thirty-four years ago this month—that's how distant his cultural imprint should feel: It should feel like Colonial history.

Yet this is not the case. Finding Led Zeppelin on the radio today is no more difficult than it was in 1973. If you stroll around the campus of any state college, the likelihood of finding kids wearing Zeppelin T-shirts mirrors the likelihood of finding kids trying to

buy weed. This summer, British fashion designer Paul Smith announced the creation of six Zeppelin-themed scarves, independent of the fact that the members of Zeppelin didn't wear scarves with any inordinate regularity. It's beginning to appear that there will simply never be a time when this band isn't famous, even if the genre of rock becomes as marginalized as jazz. Most of that cultural tenacity can be traced to the hydroelectric majesty—and the judicious, acoustic fragility—of the music itself. And most of the credit for that can be directly traced to Jimmy Page.

Page is either the second- or the third-best rock guitarist of all time, depending on how seriously you take Eric Clapton. After a mini-career as a '60s session musician (he's an uncredited guitarist on everything from the Who's "I Can't Explain" to Donovan's "Sunshine Superman"), Page invested twenty-five months with the Yardbirds before handpicking the musicians who would become Led Zeppelin. For the next twelve years, he operated as a perpetual

These pages, clockwise from left: working up some stage courage with a bottle of Jack Daniel's, 1975; Page and Robert Plant reading (about themselves?) on the tour plane, 1975; Page in concert, 1977.

riff machine, re-inventing his instrument and recontextualizing the blues; his influence is so vast that many guitarists who copy his style don't even recognize who they're unconsciously copying. Equally unrivaled is Page's skill as a producer, although this is complicated by his curious homogeneity—he produces only his own work. He also operates at his own capricious pace: Once renowned for his coke-fueled, superhuman productivity (he recorded all of the 1976 album *Presence* in a mere eighteen days), he's released just five proper studio albums since 1980 (two with The Firm, one with ex–Zep vocalist Robert Plant, another with Plant soundalike David Coverdale, and the 1988 solo effort *Outrider*). All five would qualify as intriguing disappointments.

Over that same span, Page's central passion has been curatorial, incrementally mining and remastering Zeppelin's catalog in the hope of reflecting his impossibly high audio standards. In truth, that is the only reason Page has agreed to this interview: All the Led Zeppelin albums are being re-released as individual box sets, each containing an updated vinyl pressing of the LP, a compact disc, rough studio mixes and outtakes from the album's recording sessions, a code for a high-definition download, and a seventyplus-page photo book. They're not cheap (each box retails for over \$100), but the sound quality cannot be disputed. And this is the only thing Page really wants to talk about—the sound of the music, and how that sound was achieved. He can talk about microphone placement for a very, very long time. Are you interested in having a detailed conversation about how the glue used with magnetic audiotape was altered in the late 1970s, subsequently leading to the disintegration of countless master tapes? If so, locate Jimmy Page.

If a different musician obsessed over technological details with this level of exacting specificity, he would likely be classified as a "nerd," as that has become a strange kind of compliment in the Internet age. People actually want to be seen as nerds. But that designation does not apply here. Jimmy Page does not seem remotely nerdy. He is, in fact, oddly intimidating, despite his age and unimposing frame. He rarely raises his voice, yet periodically seems on the cusp of yelling.



# What makes music "heavy"? It's one thing to make music louder, but how do you make music feel heavy?

I don't want to say it's just the attitude, but attitude has a lot to do with it. One of the things that was employed on the Zeppelin records was the fact that I was very keen on making the most of John Bonham's drum sound, because he was such a technician in terms of tuning his drums for projection. You don't want a microphone right in front of the drum kit. Sonically, distance makes depth. So employing that ambience was very important, because drums are acoustic instruments. The only time John Bonham ever got to be John Bonham was when he was in Led Zeppelin. You know, he plays on some Paul McCartney solo tracks. But you'd never know it was him, because of the way it was recorded. It's all closed down. He was a very subtle musician. And once he was introduced to the world on that first Zeppelin album, on the very first track, when it's just one single bass drumdrumming was never the same after that. It didn't matter if it was jazz or rock or whatever: If drums were involved, he had changed them.

#### I was surprised that in the recent documentary on [Cream drummer] Ginger Baker [Beware of Mr. Baker], he takes some shots at Bonham's musical ability. You just never hear other drummers making that criticism. He's usually so untouchable.

That's an interesting film, because of the way the film starts. Doesn't it start with Ginger hitting the director with a cane? I did see the film, and I know what you're talking about. I was a bit disappointed by that. His criticism was that Bonham didn't swing. I was like, "Oh, Ginger. That's the *only* thing that's undeniable about



Bonham." I thought that was stupid. That was a really silly thing of him to say.

Early in our conversation,
I mention Page's use of "reverse
echo" on the song "Whole Lotta
Love." This is a studio technique
in which echo is added to a
recording and the tape is then
flipped over and played in
reverse, allowing the listener
to hear the note's echo before
hearing the note itself.

## So when you used reverse echo on "Whole Lotta Love," were you—

Reverse echo is actually on the first record, too, on "You Shook Me." You can hear it kind of pulsating underneath. Today, you would just reverse the files. But it was more complicated in those days. You had to physically flip the tape over, and you had to convince the engineer to let you do it, because engineers didn't think that way. I'd actually had an experiment of sorts on this with the Yardbirds. In the Yardbirds we had to release singles, which was a total soul-destroyer for the band. But some of the singles had brass instruments on them, so I was trying to make the brass sound like something interesting. So I would put echo on the brass and then play the tape backwards, so that the echo would precede the signal. And I could tell that was a really good idea, so I used that technique across a lot of Led Zeppelin.





But how did you come up with that kind of idea in the first place? Did you start by imagining a sound in your head and then try to figure out how to create it, or did you first come up with the idea of flipping the tape and then just see what happened? Because I have to

## assume this is a technique no one had ever tried before.

That's true. No one had ever done this. I just thought of it. I would picture it and sort of hear it in advance in my head, and then I just tried to see if it would work. And I obviously knew what tape sounded like when you played it backwards.



PEOPLE STILL WATCH The Song Remains

the Same, or at least they watch parts of it whenever they're scrolling through the late-night TV menu and suddenly hear a theremin. It is, for reasons both good and bad, the quintessential concert film, created by the kind of super-popular rock band that no longer exists. Led Zeppelin recorded the live

footage for *The Song Remains the Same* at Madison Square Garden in 1973, but the cameras periodically ran out of film and missed certain sections of certain songs. To compensate, the individual band members created interstitial fantasy sequences that were intended to reflect their respective personalities, all of which were varying levels of opaque.

The last time Page saw *The Song Remains the Same* was June. He was in Japan, and somebody showed him what it looked like on an iPhone. His views on the movie are more positive than they were at the time of its original release, but still lukewarm: He classifies the performances as "good," the fantasy sequences (which were widely mocked) as "diverse," and the overall aesthetic

as "quaint." He ultimately concludes, "The film is what it is," which is the critical equivalent of saying "I concede that the film exists." But he also realizes that the appreciation of *The Song Remains the* Same has inverted itself. For three decades, the conformist opinion was that the movie was essential for its musical content, since this was the only way Zeppelin could be witnessed by anyone who didn't see the band in concert. Nowadays, of course, it has become unfathomably easy to see live footage of Led Zeppelin, on both the Internet and DVD. At this point, there's no period of Zeppelin's musical career that cannot be accessed instantly. If, however, you want to understand how the various members of the group viewed themselves at the apex of their fame, those weird little sequences are as close as you're going to come. The most straightforwardly psychedelic one involves Page: As "Dazed and Confused" drones in the background, we see the 29-year-old guitarist climbing a rock cliff on a moonlit December night, eventually reaching a necromancer who's a decrepit, kaleidoscoped version of Page himself. The footage was filmed on the shore of Loch Ness near Boleskine House, a mansion that had once been the residence of infamous British occultist Aleister Crowley.

I start to ask Jimmy Page a question about this scene. But I don't get to finish.

"I knew you were leading up to that. I knew you were eventually going to ask me what that sequence represents," says Page. (Throughout our two-day interview, he periodically tries to predict what he thinks I'm about to ask.) "You have the hermit, and you have the aspirant. And the aspirant is climbing toward the hermit, who is this beacon of light. The idea is that anyone can acquire truth at any point in his life."

Jimmy Page undoubtedly knows the truth, at least about himself and the band he created. He has become the hermit on the hill. But getting the hermit to share those truths is not easy, because hermits are hermetic for a reason: They don't trust the aspirants, and particularly not the aspirants who want to record whatever they have to say.

On the flight over here, I was reading a compilation of interviews conducted with you over the span of several years by Brad Tolinski and—

Yeah, somebody showed me that book. I used to like Brad, until he published that book. It's just articles from a magazine. My God.

Did you feel ripped off?

Let me put it this way: I don't do things like that.

Regardless, here is one quote I found especially interesting: You once said, "I can't speak for the others, but for me drugs were an integral part of the whole thing, right from the beginning, right to the end." This makes me wonder—are there specific tracks that would not exist if not for your experiments with drugs? I'm not commenting on that. Let's not talk about any of that.

So you don't want to comment on anything about Zeppelin's relationship with drugs?

I couldn't comment on that, just like I wouldn't comment on the relationship between Zeppelin's audience and drugs. But of course you wouldn't ask me that. You wouldn't ask me what the climate was like at the time. The climate in the 1970s was different than it is now. Now it's a drinking culture. It wasn't so much like that then.

Did you ever need to go to rehab?

But you supposedly had a serious heroin problem, so how did you quit?

How do you know I had a heroin problem? You don't know what I had or what I didn't have. All I will say is this: My responsibilities to the music did not change. I didn't drop out or quit working. I was there, just as much as anyone else was.

So does it bother you that the conventional wisdom is that your alleged heroin addiction impacted your ability to produce In Through the Out Door? The way that story is always presented is that John Paul **Jones and Robert Plant** took over the completion of that album [recorded in 1978] because you were heavily involved with drugs. If anyone wants to say that, the first thing you have to ask them is, "Were you there at the time?" The second thing to take on board is the fact that I am the producer of In Through the Out Door. That's what I did. It's right there in black and white. If there were controversy over this, if John Paul Jones or Robert Plant had done what vou're implying, wouldn't they have wanted to be listed as the producers of the album?

Okay, I get what you're saying. But there are just certain things about your life that remain unclear, and—

So let's just forget all that.

I'll tell you what: When I'm good and ready, I will write an autobiography.

Didn't you once claim you would write an autobiography only if it wasn't published until after you were dead?

Well, that's the way to do it, isn't it? Because everyone is going to die, so you gotta make sure that you don't. When I'm good and ready, I will talk about what I want to talk about. I was just telling this to someone else who wanted to talk about Led Zeppelin and the mud shark.\* You haven't asked me about the mud shark-yet-but I will tell you this: Most people would be far more interested in the length of a Led Zeppelin track than they would be in the length of a mud shark.

What do you mean?

You see, you don't even get it. The length of a song matters more than the length of a fish.

Here's something else I've always wondered: Why did you choose not to produce albums by other bands? The band (John Paul Jones, Page, Plant, John Bonham) in London, December 1968.

I wanted to keep everything in-house with Zeppelin. I didn't want to hedge my bets by doing other things.

Sure, but what about after Zeppelin? Particularly in the 1980s, it seems like you would have been a natural choice for so many of those metal acts trying to model themselves after your work. I mean, why not produce a Rush album or something? That's a good question. There was certainly a period where

That's a good question. There was certainly a period where that could have happened. Maybe the bands thought I was unapproachable. I don't think I was ever asked. Not that I know of, at least.



I know John Paul Jones produced some albums and— Oh, I don't know what he did.

He made a Butthole Surfers

album in 1993.
Well, good.



THIS KIND OF PRICKLY EXCHANGE was

not uncommon, and it illustrates two points. The first is that Zeppelin was the last colossal band that saw no meaningful relationship between its own musical invention and how it was interpreted by the media. It did not matter that its members rarely gave interviews or released radio singles; Zeppelin's massive success

was totally disconnected from how they were covered or what they said in public. As a result, Page sees interviews as devoid of purpose. And that indifference prompts the second point, which is that almost every salacious detail we know about Led Zeppelin comes from outside sources. The band members themselves almost never discuss any of the assumed debauchery that defined their reputation. That aforementioned Mud Shark Incident? You will find that tale in the unauthorized biography *Hammer of the Gods*, written by a man who spent only two weeks with the group and who heard the story from a fired road manager the band has essentially disowned for two decades. Now, this is not to say the event didn't happen, just as it's virtually undeniable that Page was intensely involved with drugs. But these are not things he talks about. These are simply things he chooses not to deny. And that makes the extraction of reality profoundly complex.

Take, for example, Page's current relationship with Plant. Robert Plant routinely expresses ennui toward his tenure in Led Zeppelin. He seems uninterested in potential reunions and entirely focused on making new, less-heavy music that moves him further and further away from the yowl he unleashed on "Immigrant Song." Page is the opposite. Page is fixated on celebrating the legacy of Zeppelin and constantly reinforcing its musical primacy. Very often, journalists interpret this dissonance to mean that Plant remains vital while Page is mired in the past. Of course, it would be just as reasonable to argue that Page understands who he is while Plant is still wondering. My suspicion is that Page thinks about this conflict a lot. But I can't say for certain, because his official statements are purposefully prosaic. (continued on page 264)

<sup>\*</sup>This refers to a long-standing, possibly apocryphal story about various members of Led Zeppelin—in cahoots with various members of Vanilla Fudge—fishing out of a window at Seattle's Edgewater Inn, hooking a mud shark, and using the fish to sexually pleasure a red-haired groupie. The incident allegedly occurred in 1969 and was referenced on a live Frank Zappa album from 1971.

This summer, in Liberia, a 33-year-old medical missionary named KENTBRANTLY became the first-ever American to contract Ebola. And while he wouldn't be the only one, this story of his survival—in the words of those responsible for the unprecedented rescue mission—is the rare cause for celebration as the epidemic rages on



Brantly was flown from Liberia to Atlanta in a Gulfstream equipped with a biologicalcontainment system.

Jeffrey Smith





he world's worst outbreak of the Ebola virus began late last winter in Guinea, on the west coast of Africa. By early summer, the virus—and the horrific disease it causes—had spread south through Sierra Leone and into Liberia. Kent Brantly, M.D., was eight months into a two-year tour as a medical missionary with the aid group Samaritan's Purse when the first Ebola patient arrived at his hospital in Monrovia, Liberia's capital, on June 11. Within weeks, Brantly and the staff were overwhelmed with the sick and dying.

Then Brantly got sick. He woke up with a fever on July 23; three days later, a blood test confirmed he had contracted Ebola.

Remaining in West Africa would almost certainly mean dying there. U.S. officials and Samaritan's Purse began planning a rescue mission almost immediately. Brantly would be flown to the States in a modified Gulfstream III equipped with a unique biological-containment system—a high-tech tent, basically-to prevent the virus from spreading. On the ground, he would be transported by EMS workers who'd trained for such a mission for more than a decade. Finally, he would be treated by doctors and nurses cloaked in impermeable suits in a specially designed isolation unit at Emory University Hospital, one of only four

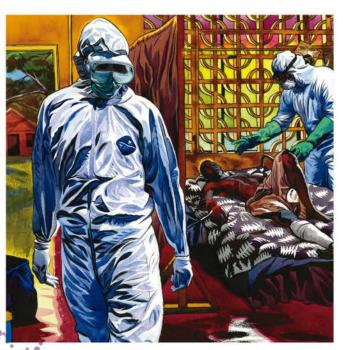
outfitted for such an undertaking in the country. While preparations were made, Brantly was treated with an experimental drug that appeared to stabilize him.

On July 30, the modified jet, operated by Phoenix Air, landed in Liberia.



Vance Ferebee (CHIEF FLIGHT NURSE, PHOENIX AIR): They brought Dr. Brantly to the airport in a stake-bed pickup truck covered with a blue tarp. It was midnight. He's lying in the back in a yellow outfit, a full set of protective gear. It was vinyl, very hot. We walked him up the steps with just a little bit of assistance, and then he walked through the aircraft. As soon as he got in the tent, we got him out of his outfit, because first of all, he didn't need it, and plus it was very hot. The humidity there is ugly.

He had an IV, because he had received the experimental medication and he had also received a transfusion from a 14-yearold, I think it was, that had Ebola and got past it. But with the heat and everything, the bandage just wanted to come



Brantly was working as a medical missionary in Monrovia, Liberia, when the first Ebola patient arrived at the hospital.

off, because nothing sticks. So I restarted his IV, and we gave him fluids. It's pretty straightforward, just like if you had a patient in the hospital.

Bruce Ribner, M.D. (MEDICAL DIRECTOR, INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNIT, EMORY): It's not like a plane crashes in your backyard and you've got twenty minutes to prepare for the arrival of the patient. It's fourteen hours over, fourteen hours rest, and fourteen hours back. So you get a minimum of a day-and-a-half warning. In this case, I got called on Wednesday, and Kent didn't come back till Saturday. So we had three days to implement all that we had been planning.

**Ferebee:** He tried to sleep on the plane. Just knowing you're going home makes a big difference. But there was so much concern and angst, and just the unknown of

getting a patient with Ebola back into the U.S., that it wouldn't have happened without heavy, heavy government influence. That involved landing at a U.S. Air Force base on the way back—in the Azores, but on sovereign Portuguese territory. And then dealing with customs in Bangor, Maine; Dobbins Air Reserve Base; FAA; Department of Agriculture... All the different agencies had to be dealt with.

Alex Isakov, M.D. (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CRITICAL EVENT PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE, EMORY): Having an isolation unit is step one. Step two is: How are we going to get patients here? We have all the logistics in place to do it in a way that you're not exposing the public, you're not putting any other patients or visitors at risk, and that provides the best care for the patient while protecting the health care workers. The idea is that nobody else can get the disease in the course of that transport, and no environmental surfaces are contaminated.

John Arevalo (PARAMEDIC, GRADY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL E.M.S.): We would train about twice a year. We used to have about twelve members, but people move on, finish school, go overseas. Right now there are only two of us in the field, Gail Stallings and me.

It had been three weeks to a month since our last exercise. Then—boom!—we get the text: "We have a mission." We didn't get a lot of details until we came in. They said, "Listen, we have a patient infected with Ebola, and he's coming in at this time. This is the real deal."

Robin Brown-Haithco (DIRECTOR, SPIRITUAL HEALTH AND STAFF SUPPORT, EMORY): Media were everywhere. News was getting out before we could get it out. Staff were getting pretty anxious. Ninety-five percent said, "This is great. This is what we're here for." The challenge was the 5 percent who were paying attention, I think, more to what they were hearing from the media. Their fear was primarily, "What if this thing spreads? What if I take it home to my family? What if what is happening in West Africa starts happening here and we're responsible because we opened the doors?"

"WHAT IF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN WEST AFRICA STARTS HAPPENING HERE AND WE'RE RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE WE OPENED THE DOORS?"



Ribner: Certainly some of our employees needed some better education. This is not some highly contagious disease that places a lot of people at risk. It's a pretty wimpy virus, as viruses go. I mean, almost any disinfectant wipes it out in ten to fifteen seconds. As viral pathogens go, it's much less hardy than, say, the norovirus, which causes the diarrhea outbreaks on cruise ships. Which is why you need direct exposure to body fluids relatively soon after they come out, because it doesn't survive in the environment very long.

Isakov: When caring for patients with a serious communicable disease, you have zero tolerance for lapses in procedure. You have to be meticulous. And you have to make selections around your personal protective equipment that are effective and comfortable and let you get your job done without a lot of other stress. You don't want to find out the day you're moving a patient who's vomiting or having a large volume of diarrhea that the personal protective equipment is not robust, that when you walk out on pavement it shreds. You don't want to learn that the eyewear to protect your face from splashes is going to fog up in the Atlanta humidity. You don't want to learn that when you put all this stuff on, you can't talk to your partners and your patient. That's a bad time to learn all that stuff. Over more than ten years, we tried different equipment, we tried different ways of communication that would allow, through bone-conduction radio, for the medics to talk with one another and the supervisors and still communicate with the patient. We sorted out all those kinks.

**Arevalo:** We go above, as far as protective gear. We knew Ebola was transmitted by contact only, not airborne. But if they were to splatter or start vomiting and you get hit, it's going to get you. To minimize that, we always train in a PAPR [powered air-purifying respirator] suit. It gets you used to being in it, so you're conditioned. If you never train in it, thirty, forty minutes or an hour in, you can pass out. Then you have a down medic who's contaminated, and somebody else has to get in. Then you'd run into problems of having way more people exposed.

We went through our regular SOPs, checked our equipment. Then we dressed the truck out. We pull everything out—the stretcher mount, the cabinets, the seat belts off the benches—and we cover the inside from the ceiling down with a waterproof thick material. We create a bucket, basically, so if there's any spillage, any fluids, it would be contained. We dressed two trucks so there was a backup. Some people didn't want Ebola coming into the country, so we were planning for the worst. If somebody

tried to ram the ambulance and we flipped, then we're in the middle of highway 285, waiting for...what? So we always have a backup and a chase vehicle.

**Ferebee:** Once we landed, we put him in the suit. The purpose of the suit is to protect everyone else from him. But the fact that we put him in a clean suit in the tent means, technically, the outside of his suit is contaminated. So then we have to protect the cabin when he walks out. We put pads down and fluid-resistant drapes along the sides that cover the seats and our equipment.

**Arevalo:** It was really hot. You could see steam coming off the runway. Gail and I, we suit each other. We've been training for years together, so we trust each other. I'll put gloves on. She'll put gloves on. She'll tape me. I'll tape her. We check, recheck, and then double-glove again. She gets into the suit all the way except for the PAPR. She has a PAPR up front. Worst-case scenario, if I needed assistance, all she's gotta do is pop her hood on and she's good to go.

I stepped into the plane. A nurse was holding Dr. Brantly's hand. That first look into his eyes, it was like I could feel his pain, I could feel that fear. He mentioned in some of his interviews, there were days he thought he wasn't going to make it. Just seeing that will probably stick with me for the rest of my life.

I took his hands, and it was really tight quarters up there. With the PAPR, you know, the suit's a little big. It *should* be a little big, because you don't want it too snug in case you bend over and it tears, defeats the whole purpose. I was walking backwards, so it was really hard for me to see the steps. I was like, All right, now I have his hands, now I'm contaminated, potentially, and I don't want to make him walk backwards so that I can see. And if he falls, I would rather him fall on me, where I can catch him. I hit my com and said, "Hey, guys, somebody's gotta count the steps for me, because I can't see."

We went down step-by-step, real slow, to the ground. He was weak, but he wasn't wobbly or falling. I sat him in the stretcher, buckled him in, and told him, "Welcome home. It's a pleasure to have you back."

Ribner: In a different part of Africa is Marburg-virus disease. Not quite as lethal, but a hemorrhagic fever. About six years ago, a CDC employee working an outbreak in Angola was transported to our unit for presumed Marburg-virus disease. We were able to determine that in fact he did not have it. But no one even knew that person came and went. That's the way I thought it would be when Kent came over. I said, "We've done this before. No big deal, right?" (continued on next page)

### Instagram

# War Photographer of the Year: **Auman Mohyeldin**







For all the powerful work the NBC News foreign correspondent did during the war in Gaza, some of his best appeared not on TV but on Instagram, where he captured the conflict in real time and with brutal originality.

• USUALLY THE FIRST thing I'd hear is my producer or cameraman yelling at me for slowing them down.

People are open to the presence of cell phones to take pictures; they don't have a negative reaction. When photographers show up, and journalists with equipment, the dynamic changes a bit.

With an iPhone, you're not using a zoom lens, so you have to be intimate with the subject. That's the most important thing—to capture a moment that narrows the distance between somebody who's observing it and somebody who's living it. You draw some strength and inspiration from seeing what people are living through. For you, it's temporary, whereas for them it's much more permanent.—AS TOLD TO JEN ORTIZ

#### **OUT OF EBOLA**



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 261

Arevalo: The ride was, um... It was calm, but you could hear the commotion everywhere outside. We couldn't see through the windows, because everything was covered, but you could hear sirens to the right, sirens to the left. You could hear helicopters.

Ribner: Usually the ambulance calls us with progress reports, but we just watched it on TV. Oh yeah, they just turned off 85. Now they're coming around the corner.

Isakov: We bring the patient right into the isolation unit. We don't stop at the ER. We don't come through crowded hallways. None of that would make any sense. Having the most direct route into the unit is critical.

Arevalo: I step out of the ambulance, and then I help him out. As soon as we come out and I hear the helicopters, the first thought was Please don't fall. I was coaching him through: "Let's be careful. Let me hold you."

They had the door open for us-it's usually locked when we do the training, so that's already different. We go in, and right when we got to the steps, he was not moving as fast. I asked, "Do you need to take a break?" He kind of nodded his head. He went to reach for the railing, and I was like, "No, no, no, just hold on to me," because we can't touch anything, right? "Just take a breather. I have you. If you're gonna fall, you fall on me."

We went up the steps. Every time we do the training, a lot of people will fly in to see, because we're the only ones in the nation that do the transport. They're taking pictures, and there are doctors everywhere. But as soon as we turned that corner, it was dead silence. No one was around. I was like, "Okay, this is real." That's when it actually hits you. We walk up to the door in the unit, and I push through with my elbow, and there were three people in full PAPR there, all suited up. It looked like Contagion. So it hits you again, where you're just like, "Okay...this is bad. This is really bad."

Brown-Haithco: Thirty minutes later, Dr. Brantly's family ran into the waiting area. They knew they wouldn't be able to touch him, but Dr. Ribner and his team made sure they could go into the anteroom, pick up a phone, and look at him and talk to him. That was very important. I felt their anxiety ease as soon as they were escorted back. Then, when Dr. Ribner came out and talked with them, you could feel the anxiety getting lower and lower. Now, he didn't make any promises. He basically said, "Here's what we're going to do. There is no cure. There is no treatment. We just want to support his immune system so it can fight off the virus on its own."

Jason Slabach (cardiac-ICU nurse, Emory): When they realized they were going to have multiple patients here [a second patient, Nancy Writebol], they needed to add to the team and wanted ICU nurses. I had to talk to my wife-she's a nurse here as well-and we had questions. You know, if they were taking the same precautions in Africa, how did they get it? Would we be quarantined? How will they keep us safe? But we had people from the CDC train us, and they deal with things way worse than Ebola every day and go home to their families and aren't worried about it. So that made me feel better.

I worked Sunday morning. Dr. Brantly was really sick. I had never taken care of an Ebola patient before, so I didn't know what to expect, but in a lot of ways it was like a normal nursing day-except I was very, very paranoid of everything that I did.

Dustin Hillis (neuroscience-ICU nurse, *Emory*): On our normal units—I'm neuro, Slabach's cardiac-you're kind of a jack-ofall-trades, master of none. But down there, you have to be a master of everything. It's the difference between going home without anything and going home with Ebola.

Slabach: We draw blood all the time. We clean up diarrhea, poop, vomit all the time. You don't think about it. But when you're taking care of an Ebola patient, everything is done 100 percent by the book. I normally joke around a lot, but definitely that first day I was very serious with everything that I did.

Hillis: The biggest thing those first few days was controlling fever and cleaning up diarrhea and trying not to spill it all over the room. But the number one thing you control fever with is Tylenol, and these people's livers are already shot, so you have to balance that out. Sometimes you may permit them to have a low to medium fever.

Colleen Kraft, M.D. (infectious-disease specialist, Emory): Before we took care of anybody with a VHF [viral hemorrhagic fever], I thought it was bleeding to death, right? But there are so many more things before that. People have a septic kind of phase where their body's trying to fight the virus so hard, all your immune cells are activated; you can have organ failure and die just from being septic. Then there's a gastroenteritis phase with cholera-like diarrhea that can lead to severe dehydration, which can also kill you. And then you have electrolyte abnormalities. Kent Brantly said that people in Africa would sit up and clutch their chests and die, keel over. And that was probably an arrhythmia caused by low potassium. They were probably having electrolyte abnormalities because they're having such profuse vomiting and diarrhea, just continuous, for days.

What we do for any syndrome like that is, we measure what's coming out and put it back in. We measure their sodium, potassium, calcium, and magnesium and give those things back. It's not like a bottle of Gatorade or a few sips. It's probably six liters a day.

Ribner: Our poor colleagues in Africa, they've got an Ebola-treatment center with maybe forty to sixty patients in it, and they've got one or two physicians and maybe a nurse taking care of these hideously critically ill patients. Frankly, the biggest thing that we never really had a good model on was how intensive the required care was. Our normal model in the ICUs is one nurse takes care of two patients. In the isolation unit, we needed two nurses for each patient. Similarly, we had one physician who was always on, physically present in the unit, taking care of one patient.

Slabach: Technically, all you need are contactdroplet precautions, which means wearing a fluid-impermeable gown, gloves, and a mask with face shield. That would protect you if you just walked in a room. But if someone's having spontaneous diarrhea, you can't trust that something won't land on your shoe or your leg below your gown and you touch it later and then you touch your mouth. Because nothing is always done 100 percent perfect, we just have to go above and beyond.

Hillis: That makes the nurses and the doctors more comfortable. And if you're more comfortable doing your job, you're less likely to make mistakes. Speaking of that, right under taking care of the patient is taking care of yourself and taking care of whoever's working with you. You're always watching each other-"Hey, you forgot this"-and, you know, we don't take it personally.

Slabach: We had to memorize the symptoms, because we have to watch ourselves and report, twice a day, all of our symptoms and our temperature. And a good part of the training was just practicing putting on and taking off the protective equipment and doing it correctly, in the right order, because that's really what keeps you safe. And whoever was in the anteroom, after they sanitize your stuff, they would wipe down all the surfaces on the door that you just came through, and they would mop the floor.

Hillis: If you're not charting or taking care of the patient, you're constantly cleaning. I always joke with people I work with, "Don't you dare tell my wife I clean this well."

Brown-Haithco: I came in on Sunday, and Dr. Brantly's father was sitting there. He began to share his son's story, about how his son got to Liberia, how as a teenager he became aware that he had a calling to be a doctor and that that calling, which was couched in his faith, led him to Liberia. Hearing his father tell me that story painted a picture of Dr. Brantlythat his faith and his vocation were connected, they were linked. His father said to me, "You know, I'm not sure why I'm talking so much." And I said, "Because you need to.

"We called it 'Kent's man cave.' If, like, his wife came in and was like, 'You're not out of bed vet?' we'd be like, Whoa, whoa, whoa-this is his man cave. He does what he wants."

#### OUT OF EBOLA CONTINUED

You need to let us know who your son is, and why he did what he did, and how he got to be where he is, and how that's connected to his faith and to yours."

Slabach: Dr. Brantly took a shower the third or fourth day. I worked the evening shift, and I knew he was feeling a lot better. His diarrhea slowed down. When that happened and he ate a real meal, I felt a lot better.

Hillis: He had his wife go out and buy him clothes so he didn't have to run around in a little hospital gown. Sweatpants and T-shirts.

Slabach: I told him he was a diva, though. They couldn't wash anything, because it would be contaminated. So he would only wear a T-shirt once, like he's a Hollywood star.

One nurse, Jill, she brought in a Nerf basketball goal, and I set it up in the room, and over the shifts we would play Nerf basketball with him. We called it "Kent's man cave." If, like, his wife came in and was like, "You're not out of bed yet?" we'd be like, "Whoa, whoa, whoathis is his man cave. He does what he wants."

Kraft: Patients have to test negative in their blood for Ebola virus twice before they're discharged. That's how we know they're ready to go home-two negative viral loads in their blood over a couple of days. But that's not even a requirement necessarily in the field, so both of them were feeling a lot, lot better for a long time before they could go home.

Hillis: The day he was discharged, he took a shower and put on his nice clothes. He had his press-conference statement typed up and was having us look it over. And then, once he left the unit, we were all lined up, giving him high fives as he ran out.

Slabach: Oh, and one of our guys, just to give him props-his name's Josia-he brought in a sampler of body wash so he'd smell good for his wife. So his last shower, he used that. Versace. Smelled very nice.

Ribner: We didn't really need this level facility. You could in theory take care of a patient in any standard hospital room, as long as you're very fastidious about your personal protective equipment and following the isolation guidelines. Any hospital could do this.

We'll get 3,000 Department of Defense personnel out there and several hundred CDC personnel; they're recruiting physician volunteers to go out there. As the numbers go up, as we have more potential exposures, there are going to be more people getting ill, and at least over the short term, there will not be facilities to care for them in Africa.

The analogy I use is the 1980s with HIV. We had the same sort of hysteria, even in the medical profession. We had prominent surgeons saying, "I think it's unethical to ask us to operate on patients with HIV infection." You don't hear those kinds of comments about HIV today, and my guess would be that over the next six months, you guys won't even bother to come over and interview us. It's going to be like, "Monday, Oh yeah, another Ebola patient. Big deal." Right?

#### **SHAILENE WOODLEY**



#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 230

some of that sun, and it lights up her eyes; they acquire a kind of aquatic yellowy green depth. There's a quality to her that's like one of those hologram baseball cards from cereal boxes; look at her one way and she appears normal, almost plain, and then she cocks her head and she doesn't really look normal anymore. So what about it: Doesn't it feel like something's ending? Don't you feel different from a year ago?

"Absolutely," Shailene says. "I hope I'm different than I was a year ago. I hope I'm different every day!'

But come on, Shailene, that's not what we're talking about! No one's asking you whether most of your cells have performed mitosis in the past twelve months. People first became aware of Shailene Woodley when she blew everyone away as George Clooney's daughter in The Descendants (the film about family and feelings and feeling those feelings under the lush golden sunsets of Hawaii). But this year Shailene Woodley became a movie star. The movies The Fault in Our Stars (the love story about teens with terminal cancer) and Divergent (the new Hunger Games franchise, only with Shailene Woodley) were both hugely successful in a mainstream way and were both sold on the value of having Shailene Woodley in the starring role. People started saying, a lot, that Shailene Woodley is on the Jennifer Lawrence track. (When she was asked about this on late-night television, she said, "As women, we are constantly told that we need to compare ourselves to a girl in school, to our co-workers, to the images in a magazine. How is the world going to advance if we're always comparing ourselves to others? I admire Jennifer Lawrence, but she's everyone's favorite person to compare me to. Is it because we both have short hair and a vagina?" That part got cut before the show aired. But that's who Shailene Woodley is, long may she fucking remain so.)

And in those movies that changed her from an actress to a movie star, she played a girl who's in high school. Shailene is now 23. That is part of what's ending: She says she got all misty watching The Fault in Our Stars because she knew she would never play another "young adult," with or without terminal cancer and a rollie bag of oxygen. She may never lose her virginity before the tear-soaked eyes of America again. But wait.

"How many times have you lost your virginity, anyway?" I ask her.

She counts on her hands. "Three, four. Four. No, wait. Five!"

"Five?"

"Five. The Secret Life of the American Teenager [the blockbuster ABC Family show she starred in for five years], Fault, Divergent, White Bird in a Blizzard [arty film, 2014, by auteur Gregg Araki], The Spectacular Now [2013 teenager movie].

"I guess people like to watch you lose your innocence?'

"Ha ha! Apparently!"

And wait, weren't two of those times with guys in this very magazine? Miles Teller and Ansel Elgort? Who was the superior person to lose your virginity to?

"Um," she says, "both different."

But who smells better?

'That's actually a hilarious question, because on Divergent, Ansel used to wear this really awful-smelling deodorant. I joked, 'If you book Fault in Our Stars, just don't wear deodorant.' He goes, 'Yeah, okay. Fine.' So I wear this deodorant that I make myself, and I gave him some of that. But he just chose not to wear it-he just wore nothing the whole time. So I guess Ansel smells more pheromone-y and Miles smells more-is delicious an appropriate word to say for a man?'

If you've seen any of these movies, there's something strange and hard to place about Shailene Woodley's presence. She isn't at all like Jennifer Lawrence, who is kinetic and rhinestone-like. Shailene Woodley is almost heartbreakingly human. She's like the polar opposite of the Angelina Jolie type. It reduces Shailene's magical powers to say she's a girl next door. But Shailene Woodley seems to be able to lug some part of your soul out onto the screen, so that when she experiences something, achieves some success, or feels the weight of her own embarrassing humanity (she's really good at that), it feels like it's you that's all happening to. Watching her star in a movie, it's like your daughter or your sister or the physician's assistant at your doctor's office somehow won the lottery and got to star in a movie. We find it kind of flattering to us that she gets to be famous.

We sit quietly for a moment. Another pod of European tourists collapses on the lawn, releasing refugee-level numbers of boutique shopping bags. Shailene does admit, after a while, that the effect of all the press surrounding the release of those movies threatened to change her. To make her feel self-conscious.

"Yeah, the weirdest adjustment was to sort of absorb the labeling the press loves to do," she says. "Oh, she's this person or She's that person."

You're the person, I say, who takes mugwort and makes her own deodorant!

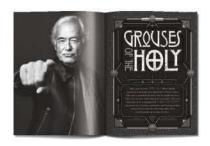
"Yes!" she says. "I'm the hippie who hugs everyone when they meet me!"

And then I hit on what I was worried about for her. Don't let people like me ruin you! Don't let us cynical people make fun of you for waking up in the morning and shouting at the top of your lungs each day, "Good morning! Good morning!"-which is actually a habit of hers. Don't let us make you dress up like Angelina Jolie all the time!

Instead of that, I say this: "Don't ever stop being the lady who brushes her teeth with clay."

Then she looks at me kind of like I'm an idiot. "Oh yeah, of course. I would never give anyone else the power to change my personal virtues."

DEVIN FRIEDMAN is GQ's director of editorial projects.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 257

This question requires speculation, but I suspect your speculation would be more accurate than most other people's: Why is Robert Plant so adamant about his lack of interest in Zeppelin?

[pause] Sometimes I raise my eyebrows at the things he says, but that's all I can say about it. I don't make a point to read what he says about Zeppelin. But people will read me things he has said, and I will usually say, "Are you sure you're quoting him correctly?" It's always a little surprising. But I can't answer for him. I have a respect for the work of everyone in the band. I can't be dismissive of the work we did together. I sort of know what he's doing. But I don't fully understand it.

#### Is it personally offensive?

No. It doesn't matter. There is no point in getting down to that level. I'm not going to send him messages through the press.

I MEET WITH PAGE the next day at a photo studio in Camden Town. We sit at a spartan table in a space designed for portraiture, which means everything is blindingly, seamlessly white: the walls, the floor, the lighting. It feels like I'm conducting an interrogation on the set of 2001: A Space Odyssey.

#### If I asked you, "What was the best period of your life?" would the answer be the same as if I had asked, "What was the best period of your career?"

That's an interesting question, isn't it? I would have to say the most profound parts of my life involve the birth of my children. But in a professional capacity, it was really two things. The first was getting the first gold disc with Zeppelin. I remember the day that came in, and I knew what that meant, especially in America. The other was playing at the Olympics in Beijing. I knew that was going to beam out over the whole planet, and I loved working with Leona Lewis, who I think is astonishing. And it was a full version of "Whole Lotta Love." Not an edited version!

## Does audience response impact how you perceive your own work?

I don't want to sound arrogant about this, but when those Zeppelin records were being put together and the song selections were being made, we all knew it was good. We were very confident about what we were presenting. So that was what was important to me. People have their own interpretation of the songs. Take a song like "When the Levee Breaks." The lyrics are clear. The story is clear. But people still have a different interpretation of how it touches them, which is

what you want to achieve. You want there to be modular impressions.

#### Musically, you're so confident. Are there aspects of your musical life that you're insecure about?

Yes. But you're not going to find out about them. [laughs]

When you would hear other artists make music that seemed like obvious attempts at replicating what you were doing—those early Billy Squier albums, Kingdom Come, even a song like "Barracuda" by Heart—what did you think? Were you flattered or annoyed? I actually thought it was all right. They were playing in the spirit of Led Zeppelin. I mean, I've had so many songs that sound like "Kashmir" come to my attention, but you always know what it is. People were inspired by Zeppelin, so that's part of Zeppelin's legacy. Those Zeppelin albums are such essential texts for any new musician, regardless of what instrument they play.

In the 1970s, the word everyone used to describe you was "reclusive." Well, you're obviously no longer reclusive. So the word they use now is "unknowable." You know who knows me? My clothes. My clothes know me very well.

Would you generally prefer other people not to know about your life? And I don't mean as a celebrity. I mean just as a normal person. I don't know what other people need to know, really. I don't see the necessity of that, and I'm not going to start now.

But when you were young, were you not

interested in the life of someone like Robert Johnson? Were you not interested in the life of Elvis Presley? Didn't what you knew about them as people partially inform how you consumed their music? What's important about Elvis was that he changed absolutely everything for youth and that he came in right under the radar. But that's all I need to know about his life. I guess I'm interested in how those recordings were done with Sam Phillips, and about Phillips's vision of having this white guy sing black music. But the music is what turned me on. Chuck Berry, for example: It was what he was singing about. The stories he was telling. He was singing about hamburgers sizzling night and day. We didn't have hamburgers in England. We didn't even know what they were. You know? It was a picture being painted.

But I think most people who love Elvis are also interested in how his life was connected to his music. Who he was impacted what he did as an artist. Which is why a person who loves Zeppelin might wonder the same things about you. He might wonder, What kind of man buys Aleister Crowley's mansion? A man with good taste.

#### Are you a nostalgic person?

Yeah. I can be quite nostalgic. Although not to the point of melancholia.

Do you miss the 1970s? Do you miss your day-to-day life from, say, 1973?

I miss how life was for everybody in the '60s and '70s. Music had just exploded. The Beatles had revitalized everything, and the record companies were taken by surprise. There was positive freedom in society in general. That was a really good period for everybody. I don't hanker after it, but I see it for what it was. I was improving as a guitarist.

Considering how insane your life was in 1973, I'm surprised that one of your key memories is that you made technical improvements as a guitar player. Is there any separation between who you are as a musician and who you are as a person?

When my parents made a move from an area near the London airport to Epsom [a Surrey suburb] in 1952, there was a guitar in the house. It was just there, like a sculpture. No one knew how it got there. It was just in the house. So there was this immediate connection between this guitar and what I was

"I don't want to sound arrogant about this, but when those Zeppelin records were being put together, we all knew it was good."

listening to on the radio. It was almost like an OCD thing. I was obsessed with it. But I don't know how that guitar got there, and I don't know where it went. I have no idea where it is now. My mother is still alive, and she doesn't know where it went. But that guitar was like an intervention. I have to look at this in a philosophical way, or maybe in a romantic way. Either way, for me, it's reality.

How do you respond to the accusation that part of your motive for making that Coverdale/Page album was an attempt to annoy Robert Plant? [smiles] That's pathetic. I'm not going to answer that. I'll give you one more question.

Okay, how about this: Was your interest in the occult authentic, or were you just interested in that stuff as a historical novelty? Did you ever actually attempt magic? Well, we can finish the interview with me saying I won't answer that question, either.

We shake hands and chat a bit more, mostly about Elvis. As we get up to leave, I casually mention the room's aesthetic similarity to 2001: A Space Odyssey. Page starts talking about his love of Stanley Kubrick. With open admiration, he notes that the soundtrack to A Clockwork Orange was produced before the advent of the polyphonic synthesizer, and that this was an amazing accomplishment. As I exit the building, I find myself fixated on how curious that comment is—that of all the things to take away from A Clockwork Orange, Page seems most interested in the arcane technology used to make its score. Yet this explains as much as anything else he told me: There is music, and there is everything else. And if other people can't understand that, he doesn't feel the need to explain.

#### **CHRIS PRATT**



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 212

action heroes by accident. It takes a healthy amount of talent, and training, and BALLS. Consider this story:

- 24. Pratt got his *Parks and Rec* job by completely ignoring the scene outline. This turned out to be wise, because his character was originally based on James Woods's character in *Casino*. (25. !!!!!!) And also:
- 26. He often doesn't know what scene he's shooting. Says *Parks* co-creator Mike Schur: "When we have new directors on the show, I'll say, 'He's gonna roll into the set about twelve minutes before the scene starts shooting. He'll come not knowing what scene it is. He won't have read his lines, or he'll have read them a few times, like, last night. And when the cameras start rolling, he will do something that is so different and unexpected that you'll be shocked and scared. By the time you're done with the scene, he will have done it eight different ways with eight great performances, and you'll have an embarrassment of riches."
- 27. Pratt's Parks and Rec pal Nick Offerman did not think Pratt was awesome when they first met. This was at a pool party at Justin Long's house, well before Parks was ever cast. Offerman: "Chris came over and sat down, and I thought, Oh great, who's this meathead? Obviously he's very beautiful, but he must be dumb as a post. And then he proceeded to be perfectly sweet and absolutely sharp as a tack, and I thought, Oh, I see. You're a superhero." Which is precisely what Pratt has become.
- 28. Pratt and Offerman enjoy harmonizing their farts. Offerman: "We enjoy being gassy animals together, much to our own delight and the abject horror of the rest of the company."
- 29. Pratt's ready to move on from Parks. This will be Parks' last season, and Pratt says it should be. "I think there's a collective feeling that people are creatively spent. You kind of run out of ideas. You have to bring in a lot of guest stars and mix it up, and all of a sudden, ideas that might not have been good enough for season two—that's our episode, you know?"
- **30.** Anna Faris! We're at the house now. We pass through the garage to bring the groceries inside, and there's a coyote pelt on the wall. I do not ask if the pelt has been urinated on. Faris greets everyone with kisses. She's thawed out the dead-dove meat so we can get down to business. The couple's 2-year-old son, Jack, is also here,

screaming out "I'm happy!" Which is actually a little miracle, because...

- 31. Jack survived a terrifying premature birth. He was born nine weeks early, spent a month in the NICU, and needed hernia surgery. Now's he's healthy enough to go to preschool and get shushed by jackass celebrities. I'll let Pratt explain:
- **32.** Mickey Rourke once shushed Jack on an airplane. Pratt says this happened when Jack was freaking out on a long trip and Faris was trying desperately to calm him down. "Like SHHHH! Like he's the baby whisperer. Like he's gonna get the baby to stop crying when the baby's mother can't, just by aggressively shushing the baby. Motherfucker. I was like, 'Damn, the fuckin' Wrestler shushed my baby."

Okay, time to cook!

- 33. Pratt makes a mean dove roll. We're in the kitchen now, and Pratt lays out the small fillets of breast meat on the kitchen island. tucks a slice of jalapeño and a dab of cream cheese into each piece, then rolls them up in the bacon. I skewer the rolls, making rows of dense, gamy meat kebabs. We bring the rolls outside and fire up the grill. Pratt lays down the kebabs, and immediately there is smoke. A ton of smoke. The kind of smoke that will alarm a spouse. The kind of smoke that a husband will try to pass off as no big deal, even when it ends up burning down the whole house. "Would you mind closing that kitchen door just so the smoke alarm doesn't go off?" he asks. I'm on it. I'd make a quality celebrity-entourage member.
- 34. Pratt says grace on behalf of all the animals he's killed. The dove rolls are now off the flames. Pratt, Faris, and I join hands at the table and bow our heads. "I'm sorry, but anytime I kill something, before I eat it, I like to say a quick prayer—just 'cause we did waste this guy. Lord, thank you for these wonderful doves. Thank you for this wonderful food and for this company and for our home and our life. We're very grateful to be here and pray for the safety of our men and women overseas and for our families and for [Faris's cousin] and their baby that's coming right now, as we speak. Lord, let her be healthy and let them be happy. Amen."
- **35.** Dove tastes great. Like squab. Though I do have to spit out a little bit of bird shot. That's okay, though. Bird shot makes you tough. I'll eat bird shot. I'll put it in my goddamn pancakes.
- 36. You get free sketch comedy at the Prattfamily dinnertable. Faris notices the mustache stamps on our hands from the gun range and feigns outrage. "What's that stamp?" she asks me. "You guys went to a strip club and got prostitutes. Oh, I get it now. I get it."

"Honey, we *shot* prostitutes," Pratt says. "You'd be proud of us."

Faris turns to me. "I'm gonna have to tell your wife that you guys slept with prostitutes." "Male prostitutes," Pratt adds. "Musta-

chioed—thick-mustachioed—male prostitutes." Faris breaks kayfabe, and I breathe a sigh of relief. She is a world-class actress, obviously, and for a second there I really did think she was going to call my wife.

We clean up, and Faris brings out whiskey and cigars and tiny ice cream cones. (For real, they're the size of Matchbox cars.) This is Pratt's "cheat night" for his *SNL* diet, and this sad mini-cone is what counts for cheating when you want to stay jacked. So we've got our ice cream, Pratt has his stogie, and I get to have some whiskey.

- 37. Chris Prattand Anna Faris have a lot of good whiskey. She offers me my pick of many fancy bottles with many tasteful labels. There's a color of Johnnie Walker I haven't seen before. Johnnie Walker Violet, maybe? "Let me give you something of stature," Faris says. Pratt recommends a bottle with a fox on it.
- 38. The foxy bourbon is delicious. The three of us move out back to the veranda with the whiskey and the cigars, like nineteenthcentury robber barons. Pratt and Faris are both extremely famous now. They're both on successful TV shows. They've both starred in big movies. They've both done Letterman. (39. Pratt says Letterman "was not very nice to Anna when she was on the show. So I was a little bit hesitant. Even my mom-who knows nothing about Hollywood and is the least cynical person on the planet was like, 'Letterman was kind of a dick to her.' So I went in there, and I was ready. If he says one mean thing, I'm coming after him. And I come out, and he could not have fucking been nicer.") But out here in the cool night air, the OH SHIT THEY'RE FAMOUS vibe vaporizes, and you're left hanging out with two normal, enjoyable people, two people you would like to hang out with more often. They might be huge stars, but they're just Chris and Anna to me, gang. Maybe right after I left the house, they DID go shoot some hookers. But as far as I saw? NORMAL.

Faris goes up to bed. ("Please write about what a dutiful wife I am," she requests. Noted.) Pratt and I are left to talk about what he's gonna do now that he's a big swinging dick in these parts.

40. What he really wants to do is direct. In fact, Pratt executive-produced a documentary about his high school wrestling team a couple of years ago. "I'm always biting my tongue," he says. "When I'm on set, I kind of wish I could just tell everybody what to do. If I could tell everybody what to do, it would be great, and it would be done faster. And so that's what I'm working toward. I want control. I want control over something. I have to get better at writing, because the stuff that I have written, no one bought. Maybe they'll buy it now, because they can put my name on it, but I'd be in a bad movie that I wrote. So I just want to make sure that I stay working hard. I think I will. I hope I will."

And he will. He'll keep making big movies and keep getting better, because he's a natural and because...

41. Chris Pratt is awesome.

•

DREW MAGARY is a GQ correspondent and is also now BFFs with Chris Pratt forever.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 237

That used to make me feel shitty. Like, "Aw man, I really have to crack the whip and do this and that." But then I watch their kid for a while and then watch mine. And my kids look actually happy. And I learned early on that perfectionism and parenthood is a toxic combination for everybody involved. In other words, so many things can flourish naturally. All you gotta do is make sure the soil's right. But I view myself more like a guide than a ruler. Their mother's the ruler.

#### What were you like as a kid?

I didn't start coming into my own as a guy until I was 12 years old. I can actually remember the moment. I went to a party. I was scared to go to this party, but I ended up going anyway. And when I got there, it was like I could tell everyone was really happy I came. And then a kid explained to me, "Man, it's not as much fun when you're not here." And I was like, Oh, I didn't know that. I didn't realize that kids thought I was funny-that I had actual friends. Even at 14, when I started doing stand-up, I was always a pack animal. I'd like to be a lone wolf, but I'm just not.

#### One thing that was super timely for your Radio City show was Donald Sterling.

Thank God! I would have been ten minutes

#### What'd you think of the aftermath?

Ultimately, I don't think he should have lost his team. I don't like the idea that someone could record a secret conversation and that a person could lose their assets from that, even though I think what he said was awful. When you think about the intimacy of a situation, like, can a man just chill with his mistress in peace?\* I just don't like when things like that happen, because if they take shit away for things that people say that are objectionable, I may not have anything in a few years. Granted, I don't think I say shit like "Stop bringing white people to my game.'

#### So you and Neal Brennan [the co-creator of Chappelle's Show] had a falling-out because of some things said to the media after you left Chappelle's Show. Did you auvs ever reconcile?

Yeah. We've always had a strange friendship, but I don't think it was ever as icy as people thought it was publicly. We just almost never talked about it. Like, "Let's just not. We're just not gonna agree on certain shit, so let's just not." It was a valuable friendship above and beyond whatever work we did together. He's an important part of my life. So I don't think that will ever really change.

#### I'm sure you get offered stuff all the time. What's been the most tempting project offered since Chappelle's Show ended?

You know, I can't say that I got a lot of offers that were tempting. But part of it is because just the stance I took. It's like Kanye's thing. You might not ask me.

#### Because you're the prettiest girl at the dance

Yeah. It's one of those things. It didn't look like I was open for business. Even now, I can go days at a time and forget that I ever did Chappelle's Show or any of that shit.

#### Can you really go days in your bubble and not think about or remember that you did Chappelle's Show?

Yeah, man. Which is good, because what that's allowed me to do is have a vantage point about my own life that's accessible to people still. I could see a guy walking down the street and be like, Even though I'm famous, I got more in common with this guy than, like, Brad Pitt. You know what I mean? Like, as a comedian, there's a certain closeness you need with people. I listen to some of Richard Pryor's shows as an adult, and it's more remarkable-moments when he's talking about freebasing and Jim Brown, staging interventions, and just these kinds of bits. Or the one where he says, "He took me in the basement and showed me the monster." I mean, I get chills thinking about that bit.

#### Comedians seem like their lives are perennially paradoxes.

At a certain point...you know what it's like? It's like that guy Steve McQueen.

#### The director?

Right. He makes 12 Years a Slave, and it's a massive hit. And I'm watching him on television, and he's at one of those parties. And I'm like, "Yo, that must be the weirdest fucking thing, to be at that party for making that movie, because that movie is a fucking angry, angry movie." That's one of the reasons it's so powerful. Because he's like, "Fuck it, I'm not pulling any punches." You know, I remember being in there. You could hear a pin drop in the theater. And that shit put him in the lap of Hollywood. This is not to disparage him. I'm just saying. These types of paradoxes, to live through them is very hard for somebody to imagine.

#### One of the people who have changed the landscape of television and film since Chappelle's Show ended is Tyler Perry. What do you think of him?

He's a pretty prolific dude. What he was able to accomplish is very, very impressive. There's no way you could look at it and not be impressed. And what I like about what he did initially with those Madea movies is that it was an after-church crowd. Like, he was the first guy I saw in mainstream media that was speaking directly to that audience. I like that about him.

The common criticism about him is that a lot of his shows and films do more harm to the black community than good. Who said that, Spike?

#### Well, yeah, Spike. And others.

Well, I can't see how my life is harder because Tyler Perry exists. You know? I mean, I can certainly debate the artistic merits of his movies or the lack thereof, but to me that's almost an irrelevant conversation, because I'm more impressed with what he was able to achieve. And I think that if I were Spike Lee, maybe I'd have certain issues. But I'm not mad at Tyler Perry. I'm happy there was a Spike; I'm happy there was a Tyler. I'm not gonna say, "Oh, I love Tyler Perry movies." But that's kind of not the point. There are people who do love those movies, so why shouldn't somebody be making shit for them? Spike's not gonna make that movie for them.

You're a student of stand-up. You've been performing on stages, telling jokes, since you were 14. It seems like it's difficult to hurt most comics' feelings, but looking at Hartford [where Dave was heckled and refused to do his act] and the similar incident in Florida, you seem to be different.

Yeah, but it depends. Sometimes there's something I really want to convey, and I get a little obsessive about it. So there's that. It's not that they're not listening, but it's like I'm trying to say this thing to them and they can't hear me. Like, there were times when I was

> "Right now in L.A. with the sun shining on me? Talking about *GQ* Men of the Year? Yeah! I'm happy. It's a good day. It's a *very* good day."

famous for things that became cumbersome. Half Baked was like that, where I had grown personally, and when I would go onstage, people would scream out shit from that movie. Or like, "I'm Rick James, bitch!" And I'd just be like, "Listen to what I'm saying, listen to what I'm saying." It was frustrating—like I was being victimized by my work. I think it's a Miles Davis quote where he says you spend the early part of your career trying to chase your influences, and the second half trying to get away from 'em.

#### But are you more sensitive than most comedians? You said to Oprah once that you needed more "vitamin love." Do you need more vitamin love than most people?

Oh, right. I have to say that comedians by and large are some of the most sensitive people on earth. Even if they're socially callous. If you sat at the back of a comedy club and just heard the way we banter, you wouldn't know that these were sensitive people, 'cause it's such an open-air market of ideas. The other night, I was talking about Robin Williams with Bob Goldthwait, and people kept coming up to me saying, "Hey, Dave! Man, thanks for coming. We loved the show, it was so good to see you, blah blah blah." Real nice things. And I go, "That's very kind of you. Thank you." And I look back at Bob, and he goes, "See, not everybody lets that shit in." Maybe Robin Williams was one of those people who, even though everyone loved him, the praise just didn't penetrate.

#### But do you ever feel guilty for being funny?

I have said some very witty, razor-sharp shit in conversations or even, like, offhandedly onstage. Some of 'em I don't even want to repeat. They were funny, but I just know that sometimes the things that scare you the most or make you want to cry the most or are the most tragic are the things you just gravitate to or address in a comedic context, partially because you shouldn't. That shit's dangerous. You know, you fuck up a lot doing that. But it's exciting when it works, and it's exciting to kind of just watch someone try. The short answer is, yeah, I've laughed at shit that I feel guilty about or made jokes about things that I felt guilty or ethically uneasy about after the fact.

#### Okay. When Chappelle's Show took off and became the cultural phenomenon that generated millions of dollars and viewers, you had already been a professional comedian for nearly two decades.

At least. And it wasn't just that I was doing stand-up before I did that show. I probably did eleven failed television pilots. And I have to be honest: Like, maybe one went to series. Another one was bought, but I quit.

#### Why'd you quit?

It just wasn't good. None of 'em were really good. And it took that experience, those experiences, to learn how to do television. I'm a slow learner. Early in my career, I was along for a ride. And then, later in my career, I was like, "You know, I should really drive. 'Cause nobody has ever taken me to a place I actually want to go."

#### So what I'm asking is: You earned that show. You earned the success. And you'd been in the business for decades already. So why was whatever happened that day on set so surprising that it made you have the reaction you did?

That's a heavy question. It's like the Mos Def lyric, Why did one straw break the camel's back? Here's the secret: the million other straws underneath it. I'm not such a waify dude that, like, just one thing could break me.

#### You've answered the question "Why did you leave?" numerous times, but it seems like people are still getting things confused. What's the biggest misconception about your departure from Chappelle's Show?

Here's one funny thing: People are always like, "I heard you moved to Africa." And in reality I was only there for about two weeks. I was on "vacation." I don't want to be too specific, but it wasn't even like I necessarily left. I wasn't like, "I'm leaving and I'm never coming back." It wasn't necessarily that kind of thing. But then there was a sequence of events...and ten years later, here we are.

#### So would you have stayed on the show if people's reaction to you going on "vacation" was different?

Well, that's kind of what I was saying. I didn't leave with the intention that I was never coming back, necessarily. I don't think it was that. I don't think it was that type of departure. But the sequence of events were what they were, and everyone survived it. One hundred percent of the people involved survived it.

#### So what is next?

I have all these weird fantasies. Going coastto-coast on my motorcycle and having random barbecues all over America. No show, no nothing.

#### Just barbecue hangouts with Dave Chappelle.

Yeah, and bring your own meat. I just like seeing people, man. I just like meeting people. I like finding out new walks of life and new ideas. Sometimes I just like not doing shit and not being shit. Like, it doesn't all have to be so serious with me. I can revert back to my adolescence in an instant. I get on those video games.

#### Are you happy?

Right now in L.A. with the sun shining on me? Talking about GQ Men of the Year? Yeah! I'm happy. It's a good day. It's a very good day. You know, I have angst in my life, but I'm like anybody. We all have angst in our lives that we pick up and fidget with and then we put down and look at some other things that make us feel good or enjoy our lives. Today I'm happy, yeah. Some days I am not happy, but I'm not necessarily sad. What I'm trying to say is that if anything like Robin Williams ever happened to me, suspect foul play.\*

#### Richard Pryor's wife said that before Richard died, he said that he passed you the torch. Wow.

How do you think Richard would feel about Dave Chappelle's career up until this point? Now, I didn't know Richard that well, and I wouldn't know how he feels. I won't pretend. But I know that if I had a torch and I passed it to somebody, I'd want to make sure that they ran it a longer leg than I could. Like, "Godspeed, young man. Don't trip and don't burn yourself. Just keep it moving. Make sure it doesn't touch the ground. And, you know, just roll with it."

#### Was Radio City the end of something or the beginning of something?

Wow, that's a really good question. Every ending is a beginning, and vice versa. So I guess it has the connotation of a sunset, because of the bucket-list analogy. There was something very definitive about it. In other words, for me to leave this show the way I did and then to sell, like, 60,000 tickets in New York City is a pretty big deal. And what was crazy was that if the venue were available longer, we could have kept going. So if it was the end of something, it would definitively be the end of any doubt that there was something real between me and the audience of people. 'Cause you do doubt that, especially if you're, you know, sequestered. I'll say it like this: There's still some shit on the list. I still got some shit on my bucket list.

MARK ANTHONY GREEN  $is\ a$  GQ assistant editor.

#### **TILDA SWINTON**



#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 246**

please send me a message in a bottle or tied to a pigeon

or even to the neck of my white hen, speckled jim, who disappears every night

and i think must live nearer your windows tonight than ours...

sleep very well

ps creeping hydrangea (brain like wet cake)

When you send Tilda Swinton an e-mail, you receive an auto-reply: "Hello, I am away until 01/01/2070 and am unable to read your message."

But then, a few minutes later, another e-mail, with the subject line "If you see her, send her home." There's no text, just an image of "her": Speckled Jim, a gender-confused white hen with a red beak, roaming the green, green Scottish grass, whereabouts currently unknown.

A PROPER RAINY Scotland morning. "We'll go to what we call the Dunes," she says, swerving in the Skoda to avoid a bird. "Oh, that's a really fat pigeon!" The Dunes are through Nairn, by the water. Around a curve, I see sand, then the beach.

We get out. "I realize I've committed the great sin of coming without a ball. Unless Sandro...yes!" Tilda Swinton emerges triumphant, holding both tennis ball and tennis-ball wand. "Ah, here we go. This is what you came for," she says to me as the beach—the gorgeous beach, the one she'll later send me an immaculately composed photo of, subject line "aide memoire"spreads out before us.

The beach is vast and deserted. The waves come gently; the dogs charge as she hurls the tennis ball, which inscribes lovely little arcs against the slate sky. The wind coming off the water is raw and invigorating. She points at a spit of land off to the east. "Sandro and I decided we wanted to walk over there. And we were walking, and water-" she gestures up to her thigh, to show how deep it got. "So we said 'Fuck it,' came back here and took off our clothes and just swam out. It was marvelous."

My flight leaves in a little more than an hour.

Tilda Swinton kneels down in the sand. "Here, take a shell! Take a shell for your girl!" she says, handing me a perfect white stone. 🗣

ZACH BARON is GQ's staff writer.

Statement Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685 showing the Ownership, Management and Circulation of *GQ-Gentlemen's Quarterly*, published monthly (12 issues) for October 1, 2014. Publication No. 0489-350. Annual subscription price \$24.00.

- 1. Location of known office of Publication is 4 Times Square, New York, NY 10036
- 2. Location of the Headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher is 4 Times Square, New York, NY 10036
- 3. The names and addresses of the Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor are: Publisher, Chris Mitchell, 4 Times Square, New York, New York 10036. Editor, Jim Nelson, 4 Times Square, New York, New York 10036. Managing Editor, Ken Gawrych, 4 Times Square, New York, New York
- 4. The owner is: Advance Magazine Publishers Inc., published through its Condé Nast division 4 Times Square, New York, New York 10036, Stockholder: Directly or indirectly through intermediate corporations to the ultimate corporate parent, Advance Publications, Inc., 950 Fingerboard Road, Staten Island, New York 10305.
- 5. Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities are: None.
- 6. Extent and nature of circulation

	Average No. Copies each issue during preceding 12 months	nearest to
a. Total No. Copies	1,098,354	1,118,876
b. Paid Circulation		
(1) Mailed Outside- County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	680,615	691,779
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	141,284	145,857
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution	821,899	837,636
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	38,021	39,154
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	7,809	6,986
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	45,830	46,140
f. Total Distribution	867,730	883,776
g. Copies not Distributed	230,625	235,100
h. Total	1,098,354	1,118,876
i. Percent Paid	94.72%	94.78%
j. Paid Electonic Copies	92,105	82,826
k. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies	914,004	920,462
l. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies	959,836	966,602
m. Percent Paid (Both Print &	95.23%	95.23%

<sup>7.</sup> I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. (Signed) David E. Geithner, Chief Financial Officer

Electronic Copies)

#### MICHAEL SAM



#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 251**

I think it was gonna be that huge? No. I thought people would be just, "Okay, he came out." And that would be that. Some thought others would join me. I did, too.

#### You did?

I did. But it never happened.

#### It may.

It will.

#### I thought your pre-season was impressive.

I did, too. Even the [Rams] head coach, Jeff Fisher, said I had an outstanding preseason, one of the best of the incoming class. Unfortunately, they were very deep in my position. I have no hard feelings, though I'm disappointed I won't be with the team that drafted me.

#### How'd Dallas happen?

That's a good story! Me and Vito were working out with another of our friends. I kept getting this call from "Dallas." Now, I have this horrible phone service. I said, "This 'Dallas' number keeps calling." I thought it was the phone company calling about my bill, because they're always calling me when I'm late with the payment, telling me they're gonna shut it off. So I paid the bill that day. But then they kept calling.

#### You're a humble man. A call from Dallas—the Cowboys? Nah. Gotta be a debt collector....

I know! So I'm working out. I leave my phone away from me. And my agent texted Vito to say, "Mike needs to pick up his phone!" He said the Cowboys were gonna pick me up for the practice squad and that I needed to call them now. So I called. Even when I'm dialing this number, I'm kind of thinking, "I'm gonna reach some guy from the phone company." I was like, "Oh, my God, Stephen Jones [Jerry's son and a high-ranking Cowboys executive]!!" He said, "How would you feel about being a Dallas Cowboy?" I said, "Well, Mr. Jones, I can't wait to be a Dallas Cowboy."

"Only a handful of people really know how I was raised. Certain family members weren't... there. They were ghosts. My brothers were the ones who *were* there. Most of the time, that was scary."

#### What strikes you the most about the difference between the college games and the pro games?

Honestly, being in the SEC prepares you for the NFL. The speed is pretty much there. Actually, the pro game is slower. Except the running backs are faster and the quarterbacks get the ball out faster. So physically the game is pretty much like college ball in the SEC. The difference is that you have to knowmuch more. To be a great NFL player, you have to know what your opponent is doing, not just opposite your position but what they're doing all over the field. All the contingencies. We spend the majority of our time watching film, more of that than actual practice. People don't understand that. They think it's just a matter of going out there and hitting people. It's pretty much a science. I am getting better with my eyes, with my technique.

#### Any surprises in terms of how you've been greeted and treated?

In St. Louis, they welcomed me, but I felt they were just putting smiles on their faces. It was because they didn't know my future. It was almost like the situation with a stray dogyou don't want to get too close. In Dallas, they were more welcoming.

#### You grow up a Cowboys fan?

I did not. I actually *hated* the Cowboys because my dad liked them.

#### Have you been in touch with your family?

I've been in contact with my mom. We talk every other day. She texts me. My dad, on the other hand, hasn't been in contact.

#### He must be following your progress, no?

I wouldn't know. [pauses] Only a handful of people really know how I was raised. Certain family members weren't...there. They were ghosts. My brothers were the ones who were there. Most of the time, that was scary. That was a small house, in more ways than one. I couldn't be around. I tried to stay away as much as possible.

#### Walking out of the house at dawn and returning after dark—did that even work?

I still got beat up a *lot*. We called the cops on my brothers so many times I can't even count. Not only for hurting me. They'd abuse my sisters. Verbally abuse my mom. Call me that word ["faggot"], although they meant "scared," "sissy," not "gay." Our house was...strangers showing up, coming in. When I was a kid, I had no idea what they were doing. Now I know. My brothers were evil people. I don't have a relationship with them now. They've both written me letters from prison. People tell me I need to forgive. I will learn to forgive them. I will love them from a distance, just like I love my dad from a distance. But I will never have a special relationship with them. What I went through was scary. For them to dare to call themselves my brothers-I can't live with that.

#### Did any of your siblings have your athletic talent?

All of them.

Why wouldn't they choose what you chose? My dad wasn't there. They didn't have a father figure in the house. There was no rule. They had no discipline. My brothers had great potential, but they thought it was cool to do what they were doing and be what they were, and they turned out the way they did because of who they associated with.

### What made it possible for you to think and say "No" to them?

I just wanted people to see me as "Michael Sam." Because people used to talk about our family behind our backs: "There go those damn Sams." I used to get very upset by that. But my brothers took pride in that. "Yeah, we're a bunch of badasses." That was so disrespectful to me and to my mom. I wanted to become something that was not that. And I wanted people to see that I was a good person. Maybe annoying, but good. That was it-a good person. And I owe much and more to my coaches. I was lucky. Coach [Craig] Smith at Hitchcock High School got to me early, back in the seventh grade, when puberty hit me. He pretty much made me his protégé-when I was in the eighth grade, I was the water boy for the varsity team. And he worked me to the ground every day of the summer. That's where I got my high motor.

#### But you didn't begin with a love of football?

I needed football—it was just something to do, an excuse to not be at home. When I played in junior high and high school, it was a hobby. Do you understand? Was I good at it? Yeah, I was. But I wasn't doing it because I thought it might help me to go somewhere. I never even thought about college. I was just trying to get away from something. That was the only reason I did it. I couldn't think of it any other way.

#### The love came later?

Yes. Being with the guys on the team at Hitchcock was my real family. Mizzou was my real family. I loved it. Football was a sense of home. A home I never had.

### We all remember the moment you were drafted. Do you—or was it all a blur?

The moment... I was actually... There was this segment that came on ESPN near the end of the seventh round, and it made me very emotional. It was, like, six or seven picks before I would have gone undrafted. I felt I wasn't gonna get drafted, it wasn't gonna happen.

#### The segment was about you?

Yes. It was very sad. You know, "Will Michael Sam get drafted ...? Just a few picks left of the 2014 draft..." I couldn't handle it anymore. So I went upstairs. I was just in a room thinking, Maybe I should never have come out. Maybe I made a mistake about everything. Maybe the NFL wasn't ready for a gay player, after all. One of those moments. I started to cry. And at that moment, Vito came into the room. I didn't even hear him come in: I didn't know he was there. But then his hand was suddenly on my shoulder. He just put his hand on my shoulder. I looked at him, and he was teary-eyed, too. And in that moment I knew that I had made the right choice. He gave me a hug. Then, while we were hugging, we heard a loud stomping. Somebody coming up the stairs. Somebody came into the room and said, "Mike, we need you downstairs." I said, "Why?" He said, "The Rams are going to draft you." I said, "No, I can't." So many teams had lied to us, made promises and not delivered. You know—"We'll pick Mike up if he's still there in *this* round." Never happened. "We want to bring in Mike as a free agent." Never happened. I couldn't take it anymore. So Isaid, "No. I'm not going down there. I'm tired of being looked at." And he said, "No, this is for real." I said, "If I go down there and the St. Louis Rams don't pick me, everyone who has a camera needs to *leave*." When I heard my name, and saw my phone ring, and saw it was from St. Louis...

#### The phone company calling about your bill...

Ha! And then I heard Coach Fisher's voice. I honestly have no idea what he said. After I got released from the Rams, before the Cowboys called—those three days felt just like the draft, because I had no idea what was going to happen, and I didn't know where I was going to land. But was I that emotional

"Being with the guys on the team at Hitchcock was my real family. Mizzou was my real family. I loved it. Football was a sense of home. A home I never had."

about it? No. I was ready to say to myself, "The NFL wasn't ready for a gay player." In a way, I felt good, because I knew: Now America knows that I know how to play football. And if I didn't get picked up, if the NFL didn't want me, or the people in the front offices didn't want me, it would just make the league look bad, because America knows. But it turns out America's Team did want me.

Given the off-field horrifics that have recently come to light [alleged double murder, domestic violence, child abuse], what do you think now when you hear the word "distraction"—as in, "A gay player might create a 'distraction' in the locker room"? Everything we've seen lately—I can't control that. I can only control myself. The way I try not to become a distraction is... Wait, no. No. I'll say this: I want to become a distraction! And what I mean is: by making big plays and doing good stuff on the field. Although nobody would print that, because that's not a story. Gotta keep bringing up the locker-room situation because he's gay.

The world needs to know just what you're doing in the shower, Michael. [In late August, ESPN aired a report—which Rams coach Jeff Fisher angrily denounced as "manufactured," and for which the network quickly apologized—about Sam's showering habits and their "effects" on his teammates.]

Oh man. That story. Well, I hope the way I shut down *that* story, the locker-room story, is by making plays on the field.

#### A disruption and a distraction.

Yeah. Exactly. That's a better word for it. A disruption.

ANDREW CORSELLO is a GQ correspondent.

#### **ADDITIONAL CREDITS**

Page 186. Tie bars: The Tie Bar. Sunglasses: Oliver Peoples. On Will Ferrell, sunglasses: Calvin Klein. On Adam McKay, glasses: Anne&Valentin.

Page 187. On Will Ferrell, shirt: Claiborne. Vest, tie, and pants: Giorgio Armani. Sneakers: New Balance. Sunglasses: Calvin Klein. Watch and bracelet: his own. On Andrew Steele, sweater: J.Crew. Shirt: Banana Republic. Pants: Topman. Shoes: Adidas. On Dick Glover, sweater and shoes: Banana Republic. Shirt, tie, and pants: J.Crew. Watch: his own. On Chris Henchy, jacket: Boglioli. Shirt and pants: Rag & Bone. Bracelet: his own. On Adam McKay, shirt: Bloomingdale's. Glasses: Anne& Valentin. On Mike Farah, shirt: Rag & Bone. Sweater: G-Star. Watch: his own.

Page 241. Producer: Tricia Sherman for Bauerfeind Productions—West. Stylist: David Thomas. Prop stylist: JC Molina at CLM. Grooming: Sean James for Phyto Hair Care/Makeup For Ever. Makeup: Miho Suzuki for Temptu Pro.

Pages 242, 243 & 245. Producer: Kate Miller at NORTH6. Location: Spring Studios, London.

Page 247. Producer: Sylvia Farago. Stylist: Roberto Rapanaro. Grooming: Nicky Weir using Bobbi Brown Pro.

Page 252. Jacket: Burberry Brit at MrPorter.com. Sweater: Paul Smith. Scarf: Loro Piana at MrPorter.com. Pants: Raf Simons

Page 256. Clothes: Page's own.

GQ IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF ADVANCE MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS INC. COPYRIGHT © 2014 CONDÉ NAST. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

VOLUME 84, NO. 12. GQ (ISSN 0016-6979) is published monthly by Condé Nast, which is a division of Advance Magazine Publishers Inc. PRINCIPAL OFFICE: Condé Nast, One World Trade Center, New York, NY 10007. S. I. Newhouse, Jr., Chairman; Charles H. Townsend, Chief Executive Officer; Robert A. Sauerberg, Jr., President; David E. Geithner, Chief Financial Officer; Jill Bright, Chief Administrative Officer. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40644503. Canadian Goods and Services Tax Registration No. 123242885-RT0001. Canada Post: return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: P.O. Box 874, Station Main, Markham, ON L3P 814.

POSTMASTER: SEND ALL UAA TO CFS (SEE DMM 507.1.5.2); NON-POSTAL AND MILITARY FACILITIES: Send address corrections to GQ, P.O. Box 37675, Boone, IA 50037-0675. FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS, ADDRESS CHANGES, ADJUSTMENTS, OR BACK ISSUE INQUIRIES: Please write to GQ, P.O. Box 37675, Boone, IA 50037-0675, call 800-289-9330, or e-mail subscriptions@gq.com. Please give both new and old addresses as printed on most recent label. First copy of new subscription will be mailed within four weeks after receipt of order. Address all editorial, business, and production correspondence to GQ Magazine, One World Trade Center, New York, NY 10007. For reprints, please e-mail reprints@condenast.com or call Wright's Media 877-652-5295. For reuse permissions, please e-mail contentlicensing@condenast.com or call 800-897-8666. Visit us online at www.gq.com. To subscribe to other Condé Nast magazines on the World Wide Web, visit www.condenastdigital.com. Occasionally, we make our subscriber list available to carefully screened companies that offer products and services that we believe would interest our readers. If you do not want to receive these offers and/or information, please advise us at P.O. Box 37675, Boone, IA 50037-0675 or call 800-289-9330.

GQ IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RETURN OR LOSS OF, OR FOR DAMAGE OR ANY OTHER INJURY TO, UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS, UNSOLICITED ART WORK (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DRAWINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND TRANSPARENCIES), OR ANY OTHER UNSOLICITED MATERIALS. THOSE SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ART WORK, OR OTHER MATERIALS FOR CONSIDERATION SHOULD NOT SEND ORIGINALS, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED TO DO SO BY GQ IN WRITING. MANUSCRIPTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND OTHER MATERIALS SUBMITTED MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.

and Russia already has. It's gonna be a bigyear: There strong, decisive, Cheneyesque leader America needs shoot down. And just one rule: yours! Everything you are countries to invade, gays to bash, malcontents Commission interim presidents. THIS...IS... do is right! Chess is for homosexuals and European to silence, dogs to slaughter, and civilian airliners to It's 2014 and you're VLADIMIR PUTIN, the kind of

offering to The Gays! **MEOW!** Appear with

shirt off—a peace

Supania oo

PARTINGSHOT

Speed construction on a Who needs the Eastern vainglorious spaceport. Bloc? Putin will rule e UNIVERSE!

FINISH

vodka! Take **TWO** steps causes food shortages. retaliatory embargo back...and a shot But you've still got

E.U. sanctions! Your

sanctions Russia.

Obama

Make "Crimea river" pun. Ukrainians claim Russia is

ho wants to live. ghs from everyone invading Crimea. Deny!

fart noise. Move

**ONE** tiny step Respond with

backward

CRIMEA

secede from Ukraine. Crimea joins Russia.

Crimeans vote to 95.5 percent of

A stunning

MOSCOV

forward, regardless

of established SEVEN steps

borders.

Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 shot down over Ukraine.

Uh-oh. This is bad No idea how to proceed.

0

Not bad for 62, amiright? Putin goes all night! I hrust forward

SOCHI

V

smokin'-hot gymnast lover.

You leak pics of your

looking at you? Shrug

Why's everyone

and move forward

TWO steps.

between Ukraine and

pro-Russian faction.

Open civil war erupts

EASTERI

**VABILE** 

Give Bob Costas toward Eastern turn your eyes pinkeye! HA! laughing, GOLDI

Get Oleg to "disappear" them Sochi overrun by stray dogs living in unfinished hotels. Take **ONE** step forward.

Europe.

failed you too many times. "Disappear" Oleg, who has rings malfunctions during the opening ceremonies. One of the Olympic

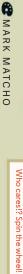
BY SCOTT BROWN & ANTHONY KING

were trying to hit YOUR plane Take as many steps as those the plane...because...they Ukraine actually shot down Your TV network reports big balls will allow.

legislation banning gay You refuse to repeal

"propaganda." homophobic

steps back. **TWO** regressive



in Sochi are a month away. The Winter Olympics Security concerns are mounting.



# DOLCE & GABBANA the one



# DOLCE & GABBANA the one





# DOLCE & GABBANA the one

